



## NIGERIA REFUSED HELP IN FINDING KIDNAPPED GIRLS

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## CHINA TENSION TOPS SOUTHEAST ASIAN SUMMIT

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On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Monday, May 12, 2014

# Washington Monument Reopens



Visitors sit on the grass in front of the Washington Monument after the fencing which closed it off to the public during renovations was removed, in Washington. The monument, which sustained damage from an earthquake in August 2011, will re-open to the public today, Monday, May 12, 2014.

(AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

**BRETT ZONGKER**  
**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — More than 150 cracks have been repaired, rainwater leaks

have been sealed, and the 130-year-old Washington Monument is set to reopen Monday for the first time in nearly three years since an

earthquake caused widespread damage. The memorial honoring U.S. President George Washington has been closed for

about 33 months due to the damage for engineers to conduct an extensive analysis and restoration of the 555-foot (169-me-

ter) stone obelisk that was once the tallest structure in the world.

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## Insurgents Say Ukraine Region Opts For Sovereignty

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## Nigeria refused help to search for girls

**MICHELLE FAUL**  
**Associated Press**

**LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)** — The president of Nigeria for weeks refused international help to search for more than 300 girls abducted from a school by Islamic extremists, one in a series of missteps that have led to growing international outrage against the government.

The United Kingdom, Nigeria's former colonizer, first said it was ready to help in a news release the day after the mass abduction on April 15, and made a formal offer of assistance on April 18, according to the British Foreign Office. And the U.S.

filtration by the extremists. Jonathan bristled last week when he said U.S. President Barack Obama, in a telephone conversation about aid, had brought up alleged human rights abuses by Nigerian security forces. Jonathan also acknowledged that his government might be penetrated by insurgents from Boko Haram, the extremist group that kidnapped the girls. Last year, he said he suspected Boko Haram terrorists might be in the executive, legislative and judiciary arms of government along with the police and armed forces. The waiting has left parents in agony, especially

impending attacks. Maj. Gen. Chris Olukolade, a Defense Ministry spokesman, told The Associated Press the major challenge has been that some of the information given turned out to be misleading. And Reuben Abati, one of Jonathan's presidential advisers, denied that Nigeria had turned down offers of help. "That information cannot be correct," he said. "What John Kerry said is that this is the first time Nigeria is seeking assistance on the issue of the abducted girls." In fact, Kerry has said Nigeria did not welcome U.S. help earlier because it wanted to pursue



**Nigeria President Goodluck Jonathan speaks during the World Economic Forum on Africa in Abuja, Nigeria. The president of Nigeria for weeks refused international help to search for more than 300 girls abducted from a school by Islamic extremists, one in a series of missteps that have led to growing international outrage against the government.**

(AP Photo/Sunday Alamba)

has said its embassy and staff agencies offered help and were in touch with Nigeria "from day one" of the crisis, according to Secretary of State John Kerry.

Yet it was only on Tuesday and Wednesday, almost a month later, that President Goodluck Jonathan accepted help from the United States, Britain, France and China.

The delay underlines what has been a major problem in the attempt to find the girls: an apparent lack of urgency on the part of the government and military, for reasons that include a reluctance to bring in outsiders as well as possible in-

since they fear some of their daughters have been forced into marriage with their abductors for a nominal bride price of \$12. Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau called the girls slaves in a video this week and vowed to sell them.

"For a good 11 days, our daughters were sitting in one place," said Enoch Mark, the anguished father of two girls abducted from the Chibok Government Girls Secondary School. "They camped them near Chibok, not more than 30 kilometers, and no help in hand. For a good 11 days." The military has denied that it ignored warnings of the

its own strategy. U.S. Sen. Chris Coons said Friday that it took "far too long" for Jonathan to accept U.S. offers of aid, and he is holding a hearing next week to examine what happened. A senior State Department official also said Friday that the U.S. offered help "back in April, more or less right away."

We didn't go public about it because the consensus was that doing so would make the Nigerians less likely to accept our help," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the issue concerns internal discussions between governments. □

## AROUND THE CARIBBEAN

### Small oil spill reported in St. Maarten

**PHILIPSBURG, St. Maarten (AP)** — Environmentalists in the Dutch Caribbean island of St. Maarten are investigating an oil spill that occurred this weekend near a popular tourist area. The nonprofit St. Maarten Nature Foundation said the spill was reported near the Simpson Bay area. It is unclear what caused the spill or how much oil was released. The foundation said it alerted government officials and will patrol and send divers to the area to determine the extent of the damage. Several high-end resorts and the island's international airport are located on Simpson Bay. □

### Aldridge wins Cuba cliff diving event

**HAVANA, Cuba (AP)** — Britain's Blake Aldridge won the first event in the Red Bull Cliff Diving World Series on this weekend beating out Mexico's Jonathan Paredes. Third place was taken by Britain's Gary Hunt while American Steven LoBue was fifth. Divers jumped from a 27-meter platform positioned on Havana's historic Morro Castle. Saturday's dive was the first event of the 2014 Cliff Diving World Series, which will end in October in Niteroi, Brazil, after passing through the United States, Ireland, Norway, Portugal and Spain. □

### 2 run Guyana's capital amid bickering

**GEORGETOWN, Guyana (AP)** — Guyana's two main parties haven't been able to agree on how to hold elections in the national capital for about two decades. Now they can't agree on who's overseeing administration in the city. The opposition-led Georgetown city council recently voted to oust city clerk Carol Sooba and named Royston King to replace her. A court upheld her dismissal. But Sooba has appealed and a national minister who oversees the capital district insists she's still legally clerk. She asserted her claim by locking officials out of city hall.

### Puerto Rico plans to close 100 schools

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)** — Puerto Rico's education secretary announced this weekend that he will close some 100 schools across the U.S. territory starting in August amid a drop in student population. The move will generate some \$27 million in savings and will target mostly elementary schools, Education Secretary Rafael Roman said in a press conference. The government had previously announced the closures but provided no details. Roman did not specify which schools would be closed, but he stressed that no layoffs would occur. □

### Agents target Pakistani trafficking ring

**SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP)** — Authorities in the Dominican Republic said this weekend that they have arrested a citizen of Pakistan and six others accused of running a sophisticated migrant smuggling operation in the Caribbean country. William Munoz Delgado, director of the National Department of Investigations, said the ring smuggled people from Pakistan and the Dominican Republic to the U.S. and Canada through the Caribbean country. He identified the leader of the group as a Pakistani national, Mehmood Majeed Khan. □



## 2 sons found safe as father arrested for killing his wife

NATE SCHWEBER  
MICHAEL SCHWIRTZ  
© 2014 New York Times

**LODI, N.J.** - A New Jersey man, who the authorities say took his two young sons from their school after killing their mother, was arrested this weekend after a manhunt through several states, officials said.

The man, John Jordan, 47, was taken into custody at a relative's home in Greenville, South Carolina, and the boys, Nicholas, 8, and Anthony, 7, were "recovered safely," the New Jersey State Police said. Jordan and his wife, whom authorities identified as Tracy Jordan, 39, were in the midst of divorce proceedings.

Police officers found Tracy Jordan's body at her home in Lodi on Friday after receiving a call from a concerned family member about 5 p.m., the Bergen County prosecutor's office said in a statement. She "appeared to be the victim of multiple stab wounds," the statement said.

After John Jordan killed his wife, prosecutors said, he took their sons "under false pretenses" from Wilson Elementary School in Lodi, before the end of classes Friday.

An Amber Alert was issued. In the ensuing hours, the authorities said, Jordan drove a gray Honda sedan nearly 750 miles to the home in Greenville, where he was arrested without incident at about 12:45 a.m. Saturday, the Bergen County prosecutor's office said. He was charged with murder.

Outside the Cynthia Gardens apartment complex in Lodi, where Tracy Jordan lived with her sons, neighbors said John Jordan seemed to be a regular, though not always welcome, presence.

She seemed tense when she was with him, they said, and was often with her mother or one of her sisters when he visited.

"She wasn't friendly with him. She wasn't happy to see him." □

## The Washington Monument Reopens After Nearly 3 Years

Continued from front

The monument's white marble and mortar were cracked and shaken loose during an unusual 5.8-magnitude earthquake in August 2011 that sent some of the worst vibrations to the top. Debris fell inside and outside the monument, and visitors scrambled to evacuate. Later, engineers evaluated the damage by rappelling from the top, dangling from ropes.

Now new exhibits have been installed, and visitors can once again ride an elevator to look out from the highest point in the U.S. capital. The full restoration cost \$15 million. Businessman and philanthropist David Rubenstein contributed \$7.5 million to pay half the cost and expedite the repairs.

Rubenstein told The Associated Press on Sunday that he's been surprised how much the monument means to people from across the country who have written him letters and emails. He said he's pleased the job was done on time and on budget.

"It became clear to me that the Washington Monument symbolizes many things for our country — the freedoms, patriotism, George Washington, leadership," he said. "So it's been moving to see how many people are affected



**Bob Vogel, superintendent of National Mall and Memorial Parks, points out the location of a repaired crack on a scale model in a new exhibit inside the Washington Monument during a press preview prior to the re-opening of the monument, in Washington. With more than 150 cracks patched and repaired in its white marble, the Washington Monument is set to reopen today, Monday, May 12, 2014, for the first time since a 2011 earthquake caused widespread damage.**

(AP Photo/Molly Riley)

by it."

During an early look at the restored monument, Rubenstein hiked to the top, climbing the stairs in a suit and tie. Memorial plaques inside the monument from each state seemed to be clean and intact, and the view from the top "is really spectacular," he said.

The billionaire co-CEO of The Carlyle Group has been urging other philanthropists to engage in what he calls "patriotic philanthropy." In time, he predicts more

philanthropists will make similar gifts. Rubenstein is co-chair of a campaign to raise funds to help restore the National Mall, serves as a regent of the Smithsonian Institution and is chairman of the Kennedy Center. He has also made major gifts to the National Archives and Library of Congress.

During the monument's restoration, the AP had a look at some of the worst damage from the 500-foot (150-meter) level. Stones were chipped

and cracked all the way through with deep gashes in some places. Others had hairline cracks that had to be sealed.

The monument was built in two phases between 1848 and 1884. When it was completed, it was the world's tallest structure for five years until it was eclipsed by the Eiffel Tower in Paris. The monument remains the world's tallest freestanding stone structure.

It normally draws about 700,000 visitors a year. □

## Sen. Marco Rubio says he's ready to be president

EMMARIE HUETTEMAN  
© 2014 New York Times

**WASHINGTON** - Sen. Marco Rubio on Sunday said he was ready to be president, becoming the second potential Republican candidate recently to drop big hints about 2016 as he vies for early attention in a crowded field of maybes. Rubio of Florida said on ABC's "This Week" that while he was waiting until the end of the year to consider the decision, he thought he had a "vision" for the nation's future and a strategy for achieving it, among other qualifications that he said he shared with other potential candidates.

"I do," he said when asked whether he thought he was ready for the presidency. "I mean, but I think that's true for multiple other people that would want to run."

Rubio's assertion came a week after Gov. Rick Perry of Texas offered perhaps his clearest indication yet that he was considering another run, talking about his "botched" campaign in 2012 on NBC's "Meet the Press" and emphasizing that Americans believe in "second chances."

With Rubio and Perry trailing other potential candidates like Jeb Bush, a former governor of Florida, and Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., in recent

polls, the remarks could be interpreted as a (very) early attempt to stand out in a field where there is no front-runner.

A Tea Party darling who drew fire for working with Democrats on immigration reform, Rubio appeared intent on shoring up support among conservative voters. As House Republicans assemble a panel to further investigate the 2012 attack that killed four Americans in Benghazi, Libya, he took a shot at another potential 2016 candidate: Hillary Rodham Clinton.

"If she is going to run on her record as secretary of state, she's also going to

have to answer for its massive failures," Rubio said.

After the Obama administration's release of a recent study saying that the effects of climate change were already being felt, Rubio said he disagreed with scientists that humans were having an effect on the "always evolving" climate. "I do not believe that human activity is causing these dramatic changes to our climate the way these scientists are portraying it," he said.

"And I do not believe that the laws that they propose we pass will do anything about it, except it will destroy our economy." □



## In Ceremonial Transfer:

# Remains of 9/11 victims are moved to memorial

STEPHEN FARRELL

© 2014 New York Times

NEW YORK - On the granite plaza of the World Trade Center memorial, families of Sept. 11 victims gathered Saturday morning beneath mist-shrouded skyscrapers to watch as the unidentified remains of people killed there more than 12 years ago were moved to what may be their final resting place.

A slow-moving procession transferred the remains on their short journey across from a city medical examiner's office to a specially built repository at ground zero.

In what Mayor Bill de Blasio's office called "a ceremonial transfer," the con-

voy arrived at the site at 7 a.m. carrying three coffin-size metal military transfer cases, one borne by a New York Police Department vehicle, another on a Fire Department truck and the third by a Port Authority Police Emergency Service Unit.

The convoy, bearing 7,930 remains, stopped after it passed by a line of saluting firefighters. Uniformed bearers stepped up to each flag-draped case and carried it through the swamp white oak trees on the memorial plaza and into the medical examiner's repository, which is in the same building as the soon-to-open National September 11 Memorial



Firefighters salute outside a station as vehicles pass by bearing unidentified remains of those killed in the 9/11 attacks to their new home, a repository in the basement of the National September 11 Memorial Museum building in New York, May 10, 2014. The specially-built site will still be overseen by the city medical examiner's office and closed to the public, but its proximity to the museum has angered some.

(Michael Appleton/The New York Times)

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Museum, but is separated from it by a wall.

A few dozen families attended.

Some relatives of victims wore black gags over their mouths to protest what they said was a lack of consultation about the decision to remove the remains to what is likely to be a major tourist attraction.

City officials have said that the entire repository area would be closed to the public.

Alexander Santora, 77, a retired deputy chief in the Fire Department, was among those who wore gags.

"We had no say in what was going on here," said Santora, whose son Christopher, 23, a probationary firefighter, was killed in the attacks. "You can't tell me that tour guides aren't go-

ing to be going inside that building and saying, 'Behind that wall are the victims of 9/11.' That's a dog and pony show."

But other families supported the decision, and were critical of the protesters.

"I thought it was just ridiculous; everyone is too political over this," said Lisa Vukaj, 34, as she left the plaza wearing a badge bearing a photo of her brother Simon Marash Dedvukaj, who was killed.

The remains are to stay under the medical examiner office's jurisdiction, and identification work will be done off-site at its DNA laboratory. That identification work continues. Of the 2,753 people reported missing at the World Trade Center after the 2001 attacks, 1,115 victims remain unidentified. □





# Searchers discover 3rd body in hot air balloon crash

LARRY O'DELL

Associated Press

DOSWELL, Virginia (AP) —

Searchers on Sunday found the body of the third victim from the crash of a hot air balloon that drifted into a power line, burst into flames and fell into a heavily wooded area in northern Virginia, police said.

Virginia state police spokeswoman Corinne Geller said the searchers found the body at 11 a.m. Sunday. The bodies of the two other victims had previously been found.

Police have not released the victims' names, but family members and the University of Richmond said associate head coach Ginny Doyle and director of basketball operations Natalie Lewis were passengers on the balloon that crashed Friday about 25 miles (40 kilometers) north of Richmond.

"Words cannot begin to express our sorrow," Keith Gill, the school's athletic director, said in a statement. "We are all stunned by the tragic news. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their loved ones."

Donald Kirk on Sunday said his son, Daniel T. Kirk, was



**This combination made with photos provided by the University of Richmond shows associate head coach Ginny Doyle, left, and director of basketball operations Natalie Lewis. Doyle and Lewis were two of the three people aboard a hot air balloon that drifted into a power line, burst into flames and crashed on Friday, May 9, 2014, in Virginia. Investigators say their remains were found about a mile apart in dense woods.**

(AP Photo/University of Richmond, Frank Strauss)

piloting the balloon. The balloon was registered to Daniel at an address in the Dover, Delaware, area.

The website of Daniel T. Kirk's company says he had more than 20 years' experience as a hot air balloon pilot and had flown in ballooning events throughout the country. The Starship Adventures website also said Kirk had a commercial balloon pilot license issued by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Daniel Kirk was known affectionately by fellow pilots as "Capt. Kirk," the hammy commander of the USS Enterprise on the TV series "Star Trek."

Steve Hoffmann, who said he built the Eagle balloon that Kirk was piloting and taught him to fly, called Kirk "one of the nicest guys in the world" and a consummate professional.

"He was not a hot dog, not a risk taker," Hoffmann said in an interview. "It's so un-

believable that everyone's in shock."

Hoffmann said he was shocked when he learned Kirk was the pilot of the balloon that crashed.

"He was very careful," Hoffmann said. "Something definitely went wrong. This is not the kind of flying Dan would do."

Mark Nelson, a Virginia balloonist, called Kirk "a true ambassador to the sport of hot air ballooning."

"Dan Kirk will be greatly missed by everyone in ballooning across America," he wrote in an email. "Our hearts go out to Dan's family and the families of passengers involved in the balloon accident."

Undergraduate commencement at the University of Richmond was sched-

uled for Sunday.

Lewis had just completed her second year as director of basketball operations for the women's team, according to a profile on the university's website.

The Buffalo, New York, native was a two-time captain of the Spiders' swim team.

Lewis was "an amazing person and a strong person, an athlete engaged to be married," according to family spokeswoman Julie Snyder.

Doyle, who graduated from Richmond in 1992 after a standout basketball career, served on the team staff for 16 years after that — including nine winning seasons. She earned all-conference honors twice as a player. □

## Report:

## US gov't agents protected director's aide

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Members of a U.S. Secret Service special unit responsible for patrolling near the White House were pulled off that assignment over at least two months in 2011 to protect the assistant of the agency's director while she was in a dispute with a neighbor, according to a report in The Washington Post.

Agents were told that the Secret Service director at the time, Mark Sullivan, was concerned that his assistant was being harassed by her neighbor, the Post reported in a story posted Saturday night on its website. The newspaper cited three people familiar with the operation but did not provide their names.

The agents were pulled from a surveillance team

that patrols the outskirts of the White House compound and monitors the southern side of the executive mansion whenever crowds gather to watch the president and first family travel via motorcade or helicopter, the Post reported.

Agents inside the Washington field office were concerned that the diversion of agents increased security risks to the compound and the president, two people familiar with the discussion told the newspaper. A spokesman for the agency told the Post that the agents involved were not part of the president's protective detail and therefore the operation had no impact on it.

Sullivan left the Secret Service in 2013, nearly a year

after a scandal involving members of the presidential protection team hiring prostitutes ahead of a trip by President Barack Obama to Colombia in 2012. In a statement to the Post, Sullivan said a supervisor in his office authorized the visits to the assistant's home without his knowledge, that they lasted only a few days and that they were appropriate given the report of threats to an employee.

Called "Operation Moonlight" within the agency, the assignment that summer of 2011 called for two agents twice a day, in the morning and at night, to monitor the home of his assistant, the Post reported. The residence was in rural Maryland, nearly an hour's drive from Washington. □

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## Brunei ownership casts shadow on Hollywood Hotel

MICHAEL CIEPLY

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**LOS ANGELES** - For longer than most here care to remember, Arthur Cohn, a producer of "The Garden of the Finzi-Continis," which won an Oscar in 1972, has staged an intimate pre-Academy Awards dinner for friends, movie stars and others at the Beverly Hills Hotel.

Actress Robin Wright and the chief executive of 20th Century Fox Film, Jim Gianopulos, were on hand this year. As ever, the peppery Polo Lounge tomato soup was part of the ritual. And Cohn now says the dinner will be his last at the hotel, so long as the sultan of Brunei, whose sovereign wealth fund owns the property, enforces a new penal code that will permit the stoning of gays and adulterers in his home country. "I absolutely couldn't do the dinner," said Cohn, who spoke by telephone Friday from Switzerland,

where he lives.

"If I'm respected in this industry, it's as someone who sticks to my views," he said. If Hollywood's palmiest place in the sun has lost the loyalty of Cohn, it may have lost half its battle to survive.

Since mid-April, when word spread of the turn in Brunei toward a harsh form of Islamic law by Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah, whose Brunei Investment Agency owns the Beverly Hills Hotel as part of its Dorchester Collection of properties, Hollywood has turned its back on the hotel.

Until now, it was treated like a doddering loved one: At the age of 102, it could be forgiven a few foibles - the starchy waiters, that hopeless tangle of streets at its Sunset Boulevard entrance. But this is different. "It's beyond contemptible," Richard Plepler, chief executive of HBO and until now among the most loyal of guests, said of the sul-



The Beverly Hills Hotel, owned by the Brunei Investment Agency, in Beverly Hills, Calif., May 9, 2014. In response to Brunei's turn toward a harsh form of Islamic law, a boycott in the last week has decreased the company's revenue by about \$2 million, according to executives, with cancellations at the Beverly Hills Hotel accounting for almost all of the decline.

(Monica Almeida/The New York Times)

tan's new policies. He said he and others from his company "will be staying elsewhere. It's that simple."

In the past week, an escalating boycott of the Dorchester properties decreased the company's revenue by about \$2 million, said Christopher Cowdray, a Dorchester executive in London. Cancellations at the Beverly Hills Hotel accounted for almost all of the reduction.

Business at the Hotel Bel-Air, another Dorchester property, has been much less affected, Cowdray said. The primary impact of the boycott also has been felt in London, where the Dorchester and 45 Park Lane hotels have seen a slide in entertainment-related business. (Fox, for example, moved its press junket for "X-Men: Days of Future Past" from the Dorchester, a spokesman for the studio

said.)

Cowdray, speaking by telephone from London on Friday, said the boycott threatens the livelihood of employees and suppliers of the hotels, including about 650 workers at the Beverly Hills Hotel, although he reiterated a promise to avoid layoffs.

He also asserted that those who withdrew business over the sultan's policies appeared to have overlooked human rights abuses in the homelands of others who own businesses around the world. In London alone, he said, a number of favorite hotels have owners in Saudi Arabia and other countries that enforce harsh aspects of Islamic law.

Cowdray said he hoped critics would recognize that a British corporation owns the hotels and that they are governed by the laws and policies of the countries in which they are located.

"The code by which I govern my hotels is absolute equality, and that code is endorsed by our ownership," he said.

Asked whether Dorchester had considered a sale of the Beverly Hills Hotel, a course suggested this week by the Beverly Hills City Council, Cowdray said: "We haven't discussed anything of that nature to date."

The Beverly Hills Hotel and the Hotel Bel-Air for years have been subject to a boycott by union members over what they said was a successful effort by the Brunei owners to clear union workers out of both hotels. "We have had longtime disdain for the sultan of Brunei," said Leigh Shelton, a spokeswoman for the Unite Here union, which has staged protests and pressed a legal campaign against the Hotel Bel-Air since 2009. □

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### Midwest US:

# Winter's slow exit buries gardens in a deep freeze

JULIE BOSMAN\

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**MUKWONAGO, Wis.** - The freakishly cold Midwestern winter of 2014 has given way to the frustrated Midwestern gardener.

The stubbornly cool spring, on the heels of a bone-chilling winter, has produced the most dismal start to the season in decades, nursery owners say. In previous years, some garden centers may have sold half their stock at this point in the spring. Now they are barely getting started.

During what would have typically been the busiest week of the year at garden centers in anticipation of Mother's Day, some customers who had shown up there were frantic, sharing tales of woe about backyard gardens that have been decimated by the cold winter, asking for remedies from staff members and questioning why some new plants were not available, as they had been in previous years.

"People come in and say, 'Where are all your tomatoes? Where are all your peppers?'" said Gilbert Yerke, the owner of Yerke Frog Alley Greenhouses in Mukwonago, a village in the farm-rich southeastern region of Wisconsin. Standing in the shadow of a 200-year-old oak tree, Yerke pointed to a cart of plants with green stems and leaves, but no flowers. "Usually the lilacs are blooming by now," he said, "and they're nowhere near."

Under the light of spring, homeowners have discovered that their carefully tended backyards now look more like plant graveyards. Perennials like roses and clematis, instead of re-

appearing on schedule in early May blooming in lush shades of violet and crimson, have withered instead under the bitter cold.

Evergreen trees have dried out and succumbed to "winter burn," with once-bright green needles the color of rust. Rabbits and mice unable to find their usual sources of food throughout the frozen winter were forced to be enterprising, chewing the bark from stems of burning bushes and apple trees instead, often a death sentence for the plants. Road salts seeped onto lawns, turning ribbons of grass a sickly brownish hue.

"It's just ridiculous," said Kathy Nuzzo, 63, as she loaded basil, oregano and cilantro plants into her pickup at Burr Oaks Greenhouse in Somers, Wisconsin, on Friday morning. "I lost about 20 yews this winter that were at least 30 years old. They're all dead."

Two years ago, summer-like temperatures arrived in March, causing an unusually early bloom for cherry trees that were fooled into thinking it was spring. When a deep freeze followed, most of the cherry crop in Michigan and Wisconsin was lost.

This spring, it has been so cool and damp that many Midwesterners have scarcely ventured out into their backyards. Patio furniture is still packed away in garages, collecting dust. Lawns have scarcely needed mowing, if at all.




"The weather has been so miserable that people haven't been able to clear up their yards," Nancy Hazard, the owner of Country Gardens Perennials in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin.



Susie Froehle, co-owner of Schoenheit Gardens, at her business in Sun Prairie, Wis., May 9, 2014. Nurseries, along with Schoenheit Gardens, found the unusually cool spring weather largely depleted their bustling stocks of colorful flowers and plants as Mother's Day approached.

(Darren Hauck/The New York Times)




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# Insurgents say Ukraine region opts for sovereignty

PETER LEONARD

Associated Press

**DONETSK, Ukraine (AP)** —

Ninety percent of voters in a key industrial region in eastern Ukraine came out in favor of sovereignty Sunday, pro-Russian insurgents said in announcing preliminary results of a twin referendum that is certain to deepen the turmoil in the country.

Roman Lyagin, election chief of the self-styled Donetsk People's Republic, said around 75 percent of the Donetsk region's 3 million or so eligible voters cast ballots, and the vast majority backed self-rule.

With no international election monitors in place, it was all but impossible to verify the insurgents' claims. The preliminary vote count was announced just two hours after the polls closed in an election conducted via paper ballots.

A second referendum organized by pro-Russian separatists was held Sunday in eastern Ukraine's industrial Luhansk region, but no immediate results were released.



**Pro-Russian people shout slogans supporting the referendums in eastern Ukraine and demanding a similar action for their town in Odessa, Ukraine, Sunday, May 11, 2014, during a protest joined by hundreds. Residents of two restive regions in eastern Ukraine engulfed by a pro-Russian insurgency are voting Sunday in independence referendums seeking approval for declaring so-called sovereign people's republics in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions. Banners read "Donbas, Odessa is with you", "Odessa stand up" "Mariupol hold on", "Odessa hero city".**

(AP Photo/Vadim Ghirda)

Ukraine's central government and the West had condemned the balloting as a sham and a violation of international law, and

they have accused Moscow of orchestrating the unrest in a possible attempt to grab another piece of the country weeks after the annexation of Crimea.

The results of the two referendums could hasten the breakup of the country and worsen what is already the gravest crisis between the West and Russia since the end of the Cold War.

Although the voting in the two regions with a combined population of 6.5 million appeared mostly peaceful, armed men identified as members of the Ukrainian national guard opened fire on a crowd outside the town hall in Krasnoarmeisk, and an official with the region's insurgents said people were killed. It was not clear

how many.

The bloodshed took place hours after dozens of armed men shut down the voting in the town.

The shooting starkly demonstrated the hair-trigger tensions in the east, where pro-Russian separatists have seized government buildings and clashed with Ukrainian forces over the past month.

Even before the results were announced, Ukraine's Foreign Ministry called the twin referendums a "criminal farce." The U.S. and other Western governments said they wouldn't recognize the outcome.

Earlier in the day, the head of the referendum organizers in Donetsk said the ultimate status of the region would be discussed later and would include the possibility of secession or annexation by Russia.

"We are just saying to the world that we want changes, we want to be heard," election commission head Roman Lyagin said.

The violence in Krasnoarmeisk, about 30 kilometers (20 miles) from the regional capital, Donetsk, came hours after armed men, one of whom said they were from the national guard, put a stop to the voting and took control of town hall. □



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## Nigeria: 3 Dutch hostages freed unharmed

**THE HAGUE, Netherlands**

**(AP)** — Three Dutch citizens held hostage in Nigeria for nearly a week have been freed unharmed, officials in the Netherlands said Sunday.

The two men and a woman were freed Saturday evening and handed to the Dutch ambassador, Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Joanne Doornewaard said. She added that the Dutch government was not involved in any negotiations to free the hostages, Erhard Leffers, Jandries Groenendijk and Marianne Vos. The three were abducted May 4 in the oil-rich Niger River Delta region while

on their way to inspect a hospital built by Chevron Corp., Bayelsa state police spokesman Alex Akhigbe said last week. It wasn't immediately clear what their link to the hospital and Chevron was, or why they had traveled without police escort despite the delta region being notorious for kidnappings. Akhigbe said Sunday the hostages were "rescued" and two people had been arrested in connection with the kidnapping.

Kidnappings for ransom are common in the southern Niger Delta, and the incident was unrelated to the kidnapping of schoolgirls by Is-

lamic extremists who operate mainly in the northeast of the country, though they also have threatened to attack oil facilities.

Islamic terror group Boko Haram has drawn worldwide condemnation for abducting more than 300 schoolgirls nearly a month ago. An international effort to release the 276 girls still missing is underway.

Dutch Foreign Minister Frans Timmermans welcomed news that the hostages had been freed.

"A tense time for those who were kidnapped and their loved ones is over," he wrote on his Facebook page. □



## Civilians killed by the U.S. in Yemen tied to al-Qaida

SHUAIB ALMOSAWA  
ERIC SCHMITT

© 2014 New York Times

SANAA, Yemen - The kidnappers pulled up in a pickup truck outside the Taj barbershop in an upscale neighborhood here in the Yemeni capital. One held an AK-47 assault rifle and the other carried a stun gun. As the men went inside, nearby shopkeepers heard shots.

Then a foreigner - tall, with the physique of a body builder, and holding a black gun - was seen standing over one of the mortally wounded attackers in the doorway of the barbershop, witnesses said. The foreigner kicked an automatic weapon out of the man's hands, looked right and left down the street, jumped into a nearby sport utility vehicle and drove away. Those new details emerged Saturday about a shooting last month in which the Obama administration said two Americans from the U.S. Embassy killed two armed Yemenis who were trying to kidnap them from the barbershop.

While much about the encounter remains unclear, a Yemeni official said Saturday that the two Yemeni assailants were part of a cell linked to al-Qaida that had planned and executed several attacks on foreigners in the country. Whether by design or chance, the

official said, the Americans had apparently disrupted a kidnapping ring that government officials blame for killing a Frenchman last week, kidnapping a Dutch couple last year, trying to assassinate a German diplomat last month, and attacking the central prison here in February, freeing 19 inmates.

The shooting at the barbershop led Yemeni authorities to the group's leader, Wael Abdullah al-Waeli, said an Interior Ministry spokesman, Col. Mohamed al-Qaidi. Yemeni officials said that they killed al-Waeli on Wednesday during a shootout in the capital. The State Department announced Wednesday that it had closed its embassy here to the public because of security concerns.

The shooting on April 24 has opened a rare window into U.S. clandestine operations in Yemen, a major battleground against what counterterrorism officials say is al-Qaida's most dangerous regional affiliate. And it has emerged as a potential source of embarrassment for Yemen's president, Abdu Rabbu Mansour Hadi, whose government helped conceal the U.S. role in the shooting, allowing the two officers to leave Yemen quietly a few days after the shooting.

Continued on page 27



Egyptian supporters of presidential candidate, Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, chant slogans and dance during a campaign rally in Cairo, Egypt, Saturday, May 10, 2014. El-Sissi, is seen as the overwhelming favorite to win the May 26-27 election. So far, el-Sissi, is riding an overwhelming media frenzy lauding him as Egypt's savior for overthrowing Islamist President Mohammed Morsi last summer. (AP Photo/Khalil Hamra)

## Egypt's el-Sissi promises progress in 2 years

SARAH EL DEEB  
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, the former military chief who removed Egypt's elected Islamist president and is poised to win the post in elections later this month, said he has plans to make improvements in people's living conditions within two years but will step down if they rise up against him — without waiting for the army to remove him.

El-Sissi was speaking with the Emirates-based Sky News Arabia, giving his first televised interview as a presidential candidate to foreign media. The first part

of the interview was aired Sunday. Riding on a wave of nationalist fervor, the 59-year old el-Sissi is poised to win the elections scheduled for May 26-27. The media and supporters tout him as the nation's savior for removing Mohammed Morsi in July following massive rallies against him and a rising specter of civilian infighting.

"The poor have been patient for years," he said, adding that he needs Egyptians to line up behind him to be able to solve the country's challenging economic and security problems. "We say if things go according to our planning,

they will see improvements within two years."

El-Sissi said widening poverty, rising internal and external debts and an energy crunch are the country's most pressing economic problems. He repeated his concern for improving security and fighting terrorism, saying police must be given the chance to combat militants and not be distracted with protests. He said that if Egyptians' do not lower their expectations once they see the extent of their problems, they "may go out (against their president) for a third time." "On my own, I can't" solve the problem, he stressed.

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## China tensions top Southeast Asian summit talks

**ESTHER HTUSAN**  
**Associated Press**  
**NAYPYIDAW, Myanmar**  
**(AP)** — Vietnam and the Philippines pushed for stronger action to confront China's aggressive behavior in the South China Sea at a Southeast Asian summit Sunday that was hosted for the first time by Myanmar, a former pariah state now eager to show off its fragile democratic reforms.

A showdown between Chinese and Vietnamese ships near the Paracel Islands has put a spotlight on long-standing and bitter maritime disputes. The stakes are high, with Beijing claiming sovereignty over much of the strategically important waters — among the world's busiest transport lanes and believed to contain significant oil and gas reserves.

Several members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations reject China's claims, saying parts of the sea are theirs. But few are willing to risk their economic and political ties with the regional powerhouse.

A statement released by Southeast Asian leaders at the close of Sunday's meeting expressed concern and called for restraint by all parties involved in the maritime disputes, but made no direct mention of China. Vietnam and the Philippines made it clear from the start that they wanted more.

"China has brazenly moved its deep-water drilling rig escorted by over 80 armed and military vessels and many airplanes to the Vietnamese waters," Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen



**Myanmar President Thein Sein delivers a statement concluding the Association of Southeast Asian Nations leaders Summit in Naypyitaw, Myanmar, Sunday, May 11 2014. Vietnam and the Philippines pushed for stronger action to confront China's aggressive behavior in the South China Sea in the first regional summit hosted by Myanmar, but President Thein Sein made no direct mention of the China in his statement.**

(AP Photo/Gemunu Amarasinghe)

Tan Dzong was quoted as saying. The vessels "fired high-powered water cannons and rammed straight into the Vietnamese public-service and civil ships, causing damage to many ships and injuring many

people on board." The standoff between China and Vietnam started May 1, when China moved a deep sea oil rig into waters close to the Paracel Islands in what most analysts believe was an especially

assertive move to help cement its claims of sovereignty over the area. Vietnam, which says the islands belong to it, immediately dispatched ships. China insists it is doing nothing wrong and said Thurs-

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## Iran president: Tehran "transparent" in talks

**NASSER KARIMI**  
**Associated Press**  
**TEHRAN, Iran (AP)** — Iran's president said Sunday his country would not surrender what it considers its right to nuclear development in upcoming talks with world powers, but that it would be "transparent" in negotiations over the contested program.

The talks, resuming Tuesday, face an informal July deadline to hammer out a final deal to limit Iran's ability to build nuclear arms in exchange for ending crippling economic sanctions it faces.

While the moderate President Hassan Rouhani and Iran's negotiators have the backing of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei,

hard-liners increasingly criticize the deal as giving up too much while gaining too little from the West.

Speaking Sunday to a group of Iranian medical and nuclear experts, Rouhani appeared to be trying to counter hard-liners in his country who say he plans to give up the program in exchange for sanctions relief.

"If the world seeks good relations with Iran, it should choose the way of surrendering to Iran's rights, respecting the Iranian nation and praising Iranian scientists," Rouhani said in the speech, which was aired live by state television.

"The Iranian nation has never been after a weapon of mass destruction

since it does not see it as legitimate," Rouhani said. "We do not have anything on the table to submit to others except transparency," he added.

The West says Iran's nuclear program could allow it to build atomic weapons. Iran says its program is for peaceful purposes, like medical research and power generation.

Iran reached a historic interim deal in November with six world powers — the United States, Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany. In it, Tehran agreed to stop enrichment of uranium to 20 percent — a level that is a possible pathway to nuclear arms — in exchange for the easing of some Western sanctions. □





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## UK PM says he's totally unbiased on AstraZeneca

DANICA KIRKA  
Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — Britain's leader sought Sunday to deflect criticism that he's been working too closely with U.S. drugmaker Pfizer in its proposed \$106-billion takeover of the Anglo-Swedish firm AstraZeneca. With fears growing that British jobs will be lost and the nation's science base undermined in the potential merger, Prime Minister David Cameron denied in a BBC interview that he was favoring the American company. When asked on The Andrew Marr Show whether he was engaging more closely with Pfizer, Cameron insisted that wasn't the case.

"Ministers were talking to AstraZeneca before anyone spoke to Pfizer," he said.

Pfizer has made three offers for AstraZeneca since January — all of which have been rejected. AstraZeneca said Pfizer's latest offer of \$106 billion in cash and stock undervalues the company and that a takeover would disrupt its work on a potentially lucrative pipeline of new drugs.

The proposed deal would be the largest foreign takeover of a British company, and Cameron has faced political pressure from the opposition Labour Party to ensure the deal is in the public interest.

But Cameron says that while he wants to examine this deal, he doesn't believe Britain should "put up the drawbridge" to outside investment.

"Britain benefits massively by being an economy open to overseas investment," he said.

## Chinese resort plans alarms Mexican activists

MARK STEVENSON  
The Associated Press

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — Environmentalists say the only living hard coral reef in the Gulf of California is once again under threat, just two years after activists persuaded the government to block construction of a huge 30,000-room resort nearby.

Once an overfished area, marine life around the Cabo Pulmo reef just outside Los Cabos exploded following a decision nearly two decades ago by local residents to stop commercial fishing and instead develop ecotourism activities on the Baja California peninsula.

But environmentalists are alarmed by renewed plans for a 22,000-room resort, this time led by Chinese investors. Jeering and arguments erupted at a public comment session this week on the proposal, which is at the earliest stage in the approval process.

The developers, in one of their few public statements about the Cabo Dorado resort, say they have eliminated about one-third of the hotel and condo rooms proposed in the earlier project, and abandoned plans for a marina and a desalination plant that caused

controversy. They offer to treat and re-use water from existing aquifers.

But opponents say there isn't enough fresh water available on the bone-dry peninsula to support even the reduced plan, and that the project gives little consideration to how the reef could be affected by resort

China's Foreign Ministry did not respond to an email requesting comment on whether the firms active in Mexico are Chinese state enterprises and the company's websites or statements are unclear. Repeated calls and emails to the Chinese companies involved went unanswered.



**Greenpeace activists protest plans to build a resort in Cabo Pulmo, on Mexico's Baja California peninsula, outside the National Palace in Mexico City. Environmentalists say the only living hard coral reef in the Gulf of California is once again under threat, just two years after activists persuaded the government to block construction of a huge 30,000-room resort nearby.**

(AP Photo/Eduardo Verdugo)

wastes and runoff from golf courses.

Critics of Cabo Dorado say just as worrisome is what they don't know about their deep-pocketed opponents: Chinese companies whose relationship with that country's government is unclear.

An ad placed in Mexican newspapers by one investor, Beijing Sansong International Trade Group, suggests the project is backed by the Chinese government, and says it has \$3.6 billion to spend on the proposed resort.

"In accordance with the

agreements signed in recent months between Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto and the President of the People's Republic of China, Xi Jinping ... we announce that the La Rivera Desarrollos BCS company, in which we are investors, will carry out a new project on the Cabo del Este," it said.

That's what scares current residents of the area around Cabo Pulmo, such as Judith Castro, whose family began fishing in the area about a century ago but now offers diving and other activities. Unlike the cash-strapped European bank behind the last project, Castro fears the Chinese have the money and "will start building the minute they get any permits."

"We're not against development," Castro said, "But we are against unchecked growth."

Neither Beijing Sansong nor La Rivera responded to requests for comment, but the company's website lists as partners two Chinese state-affiliated companies. One, China State Construction Engineering Corporation Limited, was barred from World Bank construction contracts for "collusive practices" on a previous project.

## Lure of London makes Britain a billionaire haven

DANICA KIRKA  
Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — A new study of the super-rich finds that London has become the capital of the world's wealthiest, with more billionaires than any other city.

The Sunday Times, which published the list, says London has 72 residents whose fortunes exceed 1 billion pounds (\$1.6 billion). That's

well ahead of Moscow, at 48, New York, at 43, San Francisco at 42, Los Angeles at 38 or Hong Kong at 34.

The newspaper reports that Britain also has more billionaires per head than any other country, with one in billionaire for every 607,000 Britons versus one for every 1 million or so Americans.

The newspaper has long published an annual list of

the Britain's richest people, but this was the first time it took the additional step of seeing how the country's overall standing compared to that of other countries. Indian-born brothers Srichand and Gopichand Hinduja top the British list, with a 11.9-billion pound fortune.

The two run the Hinduja Group, a global conglomerate.

The brothers replace last year's richest man, Alisher Usmanov, who has seen his fortune drop by 2.65 billion pounds to 10.65 billion — largely because of the decline of the ruble.

Other notables on the list are steel magnate Lakshmi Mittal, in third place, and Chelsea football club owner Roman Abramovich, who dropped from fifth to ninth.





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# Argentine scientist who challenged Monsanto dies

**MICHAEL WARREN**

**Associated Press**

**BUENOS AIRES, Argentina**

**(AP)** — Dr. Andres Carrasco, an Argentine neuro-

scientist who challenged pesticide regulators to re-examine one of the world's most widely used weed killers, has died. He was 67.

Argentina's national science council announced Carrasco's death on Saturday. He had been in declining health. Carrasco, a molecular biologist at the University of Buenos Aires and past-president of Argentina's CONICET science council, was a widely published expert in embryonic development whose work focused on how neurotransmitters affect genetic expression in vertebrates. But none of his research generated as much controversy as his 2010 study on glyphosate, which became a major public relations challenge for the St. Louis, Missouri-based Monsanto Company. Glyphosate is the key ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup brand of pesticides, which have combined with genetically modified "Roundup-Ready" plants to dramatically increase the spread



**In this July 8, 2013 file photo, Dr. Andres Carrasco, a molecular biologist at the University of Buenos Aires, pauses during an interview in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Argentina's national science council announced Carrasco's death on Saturday, May 10, 2014. He was 67. Carrasco was a neuroscientist who challenged pesticide regulators to re-examine one of the world's most widely used weed killers.**

of industrial agriculture around the world. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and other regulators have labeled it reasonably safe to use if applied properly. But few countries enforce pesticide rules as rigorously as the United States, and farming's spread has increasingly exposed people to glyphosate and other chemicals. Carrasco, principal inves-

tigator at his university's Cellular Biology and Neuroscience Institute, told The Associated Press in a 2013 interview that he had heard reports of increasing birth defects in farming communities after genetically modified crops were approved for use in Argentina, and so decided to test the impact of glyphosate on frog and chicken embryos in his laboratory.

**(AP Photo/Natasha Pisarenko)**

His team's study, published in the peer-reviewed Chemical Research in Toxicology journal, found that injecting very low doses of glyphosate into embryos can change levels of retinoic acid, causing the same sort of spinal defects that doctors are increasingly registering in communities where farm chemicals are ubiquitous. Retinoic acid, a form of

vitamin A, is fundamental for keeping cancers in check and triggering genetic expression, the process by which embryonic cells develop into organs and limbs. "If it's possible to reproduce this in a laboratory, surely what is happening in the field is much worse," Carrasco told the AP. "And if it's much worse, and we suspect that it is, what we have to do is put this under a magnifying glass." Monsanto has worked closely with the EPA and other regulatory agencies to strictly limit the parameters of laboratory tests used for approvals of its pesticides and genetically modified seeds. Carrasco's study didn't follow these parameters, and Monsanto dismissed his results as "not surprising given their methodology and unrealistic exposure scenarios." When asked by the AP last year to explain how scientists can rule out birth defect risks without testing the effect of pesticides on genetic expression in embryos, company spokesman Thomas Helscher said these methods are "relatively new" and that scientists don't yet understand "how to translate genetic modulations into predictions of adverse outcome." Injecting embryos with pesticides, Helscher said, is "less reliable and less relevant for human risk assessments" than methods the industry uses. Carrasco's research also was criticized by Argentine authorities, but it has become a rallying point for a growing movement of "fumigated people" in the South American country and beyond, who are calling on governments to strictly enforce pesticide spraying limits to reduce human exposure. □

## Cuba briefs US officials on detained exiles

**HAVANA (AP)** — U.S. diplomats confirmed over the weekend that Cuban officials have given them some information about four Florida residents who were arrested on suspicion of preparing attacks against military installations on the island.

The U.S. Interests Section issued a statement confirming the May 8 meeting with representatives of the Cuban Ministry of Foreign

Affairs. It said, "The Cubans provided some information about the allegations which we are now reviewing."

Cuba's Interior Ministry has identified the men as Jose Ortega Amador, Obdulio Rodriguez Gonzalez, Raibel Pacheco Santos and Felix Monzon Alvarez. It said they were detained in late April for planning "terrorist actions" masterminded from Florida.

The Interior Ministry said the men were detained on April 26 for plotting to attack military installations, but released few specific details.

None of the four are well-known within the exile community in South Florida, but Cuba claimed they were acting on orders from others with a history of militancy, singling out Santiago Alvarez Fernandez Magrina, Osvaldo Mitat and Manuel

Alzugaray in Miami.

Santiago Alvarez and Mitat pleaded guilty in 2006 in the United States to conspiracy after an informant tipped the FBI that a large cache of weapons, including machine guns and a grenade launcher, was being moved from apartments Alvarez owned.

Alvarez, however, denied involvement in any plot and said he did not know the detained men. □





## With a financial grant from Aruba Scholarship Foundation: Margret Flores Graduates Summa Cum Laude from USF

**ORANJESTAD** - Last week Margret Flores, helped with a grant from Aruba Scholarship Foundation graduated Summa Cum Laude from University of South Florida with an almost perfect GPA of 3.94.

After graduating from Valencia Community College in 2012 where she studied Nursing, Margret entered USF and changed her major to Psychology.

Margret was born in the Philippines and immigrated to Aruba at the age of five. Working hard to learn new languages, Margret went through elementary school with grades that allowed her admission



Aunt Marina Abierra, Macario Flores (dad), Margret, Marilyn (mom).

to Colegio Arubano. She graduated from HAVO in 2009. After working a year with Tomlin NV (Dunkin Donuts), Margret entered Valencia Community college where she was recognized as an outstanding student.

With a high GPA Margret had no problem obtaining a financial grant from Aruba Scholarship Foundation beginning with the school year 2011-2012. Margret is considering using the Optional Practical Training (OPT) program and work in a laboratory where she can participate in research. The OPT program allows foreign students to work for twelve months with a student visa following their

completion of their studies in the United States. Margret plans to earn her Master's degree in the Netherlands.

Margret is the daughter of Marilyn and Macario Flores. They live in Oranjestad and both are employed by Marriott. The Flores family immigrated from the Philippines 18 years ago and now feel completely assimilated in the Aruban community. Margret is the third Philippino-born Aruban to graduate with honors in Florida with the help of the Aruba Scholarship Foundation.

Aruba Scholarship Foundation congratulates the Flores family and wishes Margret much success in her blooming career. □



LtoR: Proud parents Marilyn and Macario Flores, Margret, grand aunt and grand uncle Victoria and Pat Perez.



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The certificates were presented by Mr. Jonathan Boekhoudt representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Ms. Jenny Boekhoudt representing the Marriott Surf Club. □





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Rafael Nadal from Spain poses for photographers with his trophy, after winning his Madrid Open tennis tournament, men's final match against Kei Nishikori from Japan in Madrid, Spain, Sunday, May 11, 2014.

Associated Press

## Nadal wins Madrid Open after Nishikori retires

PAUL LOGOTHETIS  
AP Sports Writer

**MADRID (AP)** Rafael Nadal finally won another clay-court title, although not in a manner that alleviated any concerns about his recent form on his favorite surface. The top-ranked Spaniard won his fourth Madrid Open on Sunday after Kei Nishikori was forced to withdraw with a hip injury when trailing 2-6, 6-4, 3-0 in the final. And Nadal, who is coming off to uncharacteristic quarterfinal losses on clay, said his mental strength is still lacking just two weeks ahead of the French Open. "I was blocked. There were some moments where, I don't know, I couldn't find myself," said Nadal, whose victory guarantees he will stay No. 1 in the rankings heading into Roland Garros. "It wasn't that I didn't want to play or I was missing intensity, I was just mentally blocked."

Continued on Page 22



## Kaymer holds off Furyk to win Players

Martin Kaymer of Germany, shows his ball on the second green during the final round of The Players championship golf tournament at TPC Sawgrass, Sunday, May 11, 2014 in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

Associated Press  
Page 19



# Clippers stun Thunder 101-99 to tie series

By **BETH HARRIS**  
AP Sports Writer

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** -- After being thoroughly outplayed for over 40 minutes, the Los Angeles Clippers fought back.

Leading the way was a player not known for coming up big in the clutch.

Darren Collison scored eight of his 18 points in the final 2:58, rallying the Clippers past the Oklahoma City Thunder 101-99 on Sunday to tie the Western Conference semifinal series 2-2.

"Even though we didn't play well throughout the game, we were able to get a win," Collison said. "That feels more impressive than anything we did."

Russell Westbrook, who scored 27 points, missed a 3-pointer and Serge Ibaka's tip attempt was too late at the buzzer, allowing the Clippers to salvage a game they trailed until the final 1:23.

"It was a good look," Westbrook said. "Just didn't go in."

Blake Griffin led Los Angeles with 25 points, making 9 of 11 free throws. Jamal Crawford added 18 points. DeAndre Jordan had 14 rebounds, helping the Clippers win the boards, 45-43 - the first time in 11 playoff games the Thunder were outrebounded.

"We just willed this one. We found a way," said Chris Paul, who had 23 points and 10 assists.

Kevin Durant scored 40 points, hitting 15 of 18 free throws, for the Thunder.

"We let this one slip away," he said. "We could have taken control of the series."

Game 5 is Tuesday night in Oklahoma City.

"We were almost on the mat and we got off of it. We didn't get pinned," Clippers coach Doc Rivers said. "They're seething right now. They had an opportunity to go up 3-1 and now it's an even series."



Los Angeles Clippers guard Darren Collison, upper right, puts up a shot as Oklahoma City Thunder forward Kevin Durant, left, defends and Clippers guard Chris Paul looks on in the first half of Game 4 of the Western Conference semifinal NBA basketball playoff series, Sunday, May 11, 2014, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

ter of Game 7 to oust Golden State in the first round.

"This is one of the best ones yet," Paul said. "Darren Collison was amazing. You just got to love a guy like that who plays with so much heart and never gives up."

The Clippers had no answer for Durant and Westbrook until midway through the fourth quarter. That dynamic duo drove the lane with abandon, drew fouls and made free throws in leading the Thunder to an early 22-point lead.

Durant's three-point play early in the fourth extended the Thunder's lead to 15 points, and they were still up by 10 with 7:44 to go. But the comeback Clippers were not to be denied.

"Everybody kept telling each other, 'Chip away, chip away,'" Griffin said. "That was kind of our mentality for the rest of the game. We just kept fighting."

The Clippers stole a page out of the Thunder's playbook, switching to a smaller lineup that included Collison and Danny Granger, who helped disrupt the Thunder's rebounding late. Paul willed his team back into it, scoring six straight points to get the Clippers

within six. Griffin, who was saddled with five fouls, made three of four free throws before Collison got hot.

"The whole time I'm thinking, 'We can't be down 3-1, we just can't be down 3-1 going to Oklahoma,'" Collison said.

With the game tied at 97, Collison scored the Clippers' final four points on layups.

Crawford passed to a streaking Collison for a fast-break conversion on the second one for a 101-97 lead with 32 seconds left. Westbrook scored for the Thunder, but after Griffin missed, Westbrook did too to end the game.

"Did that really just happen?" a still stunned Crawford said.

Paul missed all five of his shots in the third, when Griffin picked up three fouls to give him five, and Crawford and Jordan each got their third.

Ibaka, who shot 9 of 10 in the Thunder's Game 3 win, got his fourth foul, along with Westbrook in the third. The Clippers came as close as eight points before Reggie Jackson's 3-pointer beat the shot clock to keep the Thunder ahead 75-63 going into the fourth. □

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# Kaymer holds on to win Players Championship

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Florida (AP) —

Martin Kaymer produced one of the most unlikely pars on the 17th green at the TPC Sawgrass without ever going in the water. It carried him to a one-shot victory Sunday in The Players Championship that was emotional in so many ways.

Kaymer nearly conceded a three-shot lead after a 90-minute rain delay until he holed a 30-foot par putt on the famous island green. He got up-and-down with his putter from short of the 18th green for one last par and a 1-under 71.

Jim Furyk closed with a 66 — he had to wait after the rain delay to rap in a 3-foot par putt — and it looked as though it might be enough to force a playoff, or even win outright when the 29-year-old German began to crumble. Furyk had to settle for a runner-up finish for the second straight week.

Jordan Spieth, tied with Kaymer going into the final round, made his first bogey of the tournament on the fifth hole, and plenty more followed. He closed with a 74.

The typical stress that Sawgrass brings on Sunday was contained to the final hour, and it was almost more than Kaymer could take. The German made double bogey from an aggressive play behind a pine tree on the 15th. He nervously chose putter from a collection area on the par-5 16th that cost him a chance at birdie.

Nothing could top the 17th hole, the most exciting on the Stadium Course.

Kaymer had a one-shot lead. His tee shot cleared the water and landed on a mound just over the bunker, but it mysteriously spun hard back toward the front of the green and looked as if it might go into the water until it settled into the clumpy collar a foot from the bulkhead. His chip was weak, and he still had 30 feet down a ridge with a sharp swing to the right.



Martin Kaymer of Germany, looks at his shot from the second tee during the final round of The Players championship golf tournament at TPC Sawgrass, Sunday, May 11, 2014 in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. Associated Press

He made the putt, pumping his fist in a rare show of emotion.

His putt from the fairway on 18 settled 3 feet behind the hole, and Kaymer was as much relieved as excited when he knocked it in.

A former world No. 1 and major champion, Kaymer nearly choked up when asked about winning on Mother's Day. His mother, Rina, died of cancer in 2008 shortly after Kaymer won the BMW International Open in Germany.

He has a sunflower — her favorite flower — on his golf bag.

"My mother was always there to be affectionate and show us love," Kaymer said in a taped interview with NBC Sports. "When my mom passed away, that stopped. We had enough when we were younger. Mother's Day is always a nice day. I hope a lot of kids show their mothers we love them."

Interviewed on the 18th green, so dark that the clubhouse was glowing from the outdoor lights, Kaymer said brother Phillip sent him a text that morning which he described as "very emotional."

"It's a good day for all of us," he said.

Kaymer finished at 13-under 275 and joined an elite group by winning the big-

gest event on golf's strongest tour. Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson and Adam Scott are the only other players to win a major, a World

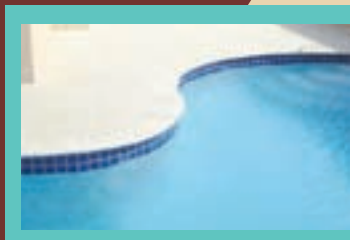
Golf Championship and The Players Championship. Sergio Garcia made a strong run until he hit into the water on the par-5 11th and lost momentum by missing too many putts. He closed with a 70 to finish alone in third at 11 under.

For the 20-year-old Spieth, it was another lost opportunity. He went 58 consecutive holes without a bogey at Sawgrass until dropping a shot at No. 5. Spieth still was tied for the lead approaching the turn when Kaymer pulled away.

Spieth made bogey on No. 8. Kaymer got up-and-down from a bunker for birdie on No. 9. Spieth made another bogey on No. 10 when his wedge bounced over the green, and Kaymer made another superb bunker shot on the par-5 11th for birdie.

He was humming along until the horn sounded to stop play. When he returned, it all started to go wrong. But he held his nerve — he spoke earlier in the week about trying not to be a "wimp" — and produced an important win.

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# Red Sox back above .500 with 5-2 win at Rangers

**The Associated Press**

**ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)**

— A.J. Pierzynski and Mike Napoli had run-producing hits in the first inning against their former team as the Boston Red Sox got above .500 for the first time since three games into the season with a series-clinching 5-2 victory at Texas on Sunday.

Napoli put the Red Sox ahead to stay with an RBI double, two batters before Pierzynski's two-run single. Both went to Boston as free agents after being in Texas — Pierzynski was the Rangers primary catcher last season, and Napoli was there the previous two years.

John Lackey (5-2) struck out nine while allowing two runs over seven innings.

Rangers lefty Robbie Ross (1-4) made it through 6 2-3 innings and a career-high



**Texas Rangers' J.P. Arencibia, back left, kneels by the plate as Boston Red Sox's Mike Napoli, front left, and David Ortiz (34) score on an A.J. Pierzynski single to right in the first inning of a baseball game on Sunday, May 11, 2014, in Arlington, Texas.**

112 pitches.

ROYALS 9, MARINERS 7

SEATTLE (AP) — Alcides Es-

cobar hit a grand slam and Johnny Giavotella added a three-run shot to give the Royals a comeback victory over the Mariners.

Escobar had provided a 4-0 lead for the Royals in the second with his first career home run off starter Roenis Elias. But the Mariners rallied behind two homers from Dustin Ackley and another from Kyle Seager before Kansas City took the lead in the seventh, scoring four runs off reliever Danny Farquhar (1-1).

Louis Coleman (1-0), who worked a scoreless sixth, earned the victory.

The Mariners committed a season-high four errors.

INDIANS 6, RAYS 5

ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (AP) — Josh Tomlin won his second straight start, and Nyjer Morgan and Michael Bourn both drove in two runs as the Indians beat the Rays.

Tomlin (2-0), who pitched just once in the big leagues last season after right elbow surgery in 2012, allowed two runs and six hits over six innings in his second outing this year.

Morgan hit his first major league homer since July 30, 2012, an eighth-inning solo shot.

Matt Joyce homered and had two RBIs for the Rays, who went 1-5 on their homestand. Chris Archer

(2-2) gave up four runs and eight hits in five-plus innings.

ASTROS 5, ORIOLES 2

BALTIMORE (AP) — Jason Castro and Marc Krauss homered to account for all of Houston's runs as the Astros beat the Orioles to avoid a three-game sweep.

Jarred Cosart (2-3) allowed two runs and eight hits over six innings for the Astros, who had lost seven of eight before ending Baltimore's five-game winning streak.

Castro hit a three-run homer off Chris Tillman (3-2) in the first inning and Krauss connected against T.J. McFarland with a runner on in the seventh. Houston is 11-11 when it hits a home run and 1-15 when it doesn't.

Although the Astros' bullpen came in with a 6.21 ERA, Tony Sipp struck out five in two perfect innings and Chad Qualls worked the ninth for his second save.

ANGELS 9, BLUE JAYS 3

TORONTO (AP) — Jered Weaver won his fourth straight decision, Hank Conger hit a three-run homer and had a career-high five RBIs as the Angels beat Toronto for their seventh straight win over the Blue Jays.

Conger went 3 for 4 with a walk. He hit an RBI double in the fourth, homered in

the sixth and added an RBI single in the ninth.

Howie Kendrick had three hits, two stolen bases and scored three times as the Angels won their third straight.

Weaver (4-2) improved to 4-0 with a 1.71 ERA in his past four starts.

Blue Jays right-hander Drew Hutchison (1-3), who has not won in seven starts, allowed three runs and three hits in 4 1-3 innings. He matched a career-high with four walks and struck out five.

TWINS 4, TIGERS 3

DETROIT (AP) — Eduardo Nunez hit a tiebreaking single in the eighth inning as the Twins rallied for a victory over the Tigers.

The Twins took advantage of poor defense by the Tigers in the late innings. Minnesota scored three runs in the eighth, spoiling another fine start by Detroit rookie Robbie Ray.

The Tigers led 3-1 with two outs in the eighth when Josmil Pinto singled to left field off Joba Chamberlain (1-2) with runners on first and second.

One run scored on the hit, but the ball skipped past left fielder Rajai Davis for an error that tied the game and allowed Pinto to reach second.

Nunez followed with his single to make it 4-3.

Jared Burton (1-1) won in relief. Glen Perkins got four outs for his 10th save in 11 chances.

INTERLEAGUE

ATHLETICS 9, NATIONALS 1

OAKLAND, California (AP) — Derek Norris hit a pair of three-run home runs to back Scott Kazmir's fifth win as the Athletics beat the Nationals to complete a series sweep.

Both of Norris' home runs came on identical two-out, 3-0 pitches from Washington starter and former Oakland pitcher Gio Gonzalez (3-3).

Nick Punto added two hits and three RBIs while Brandon Moss singled twice and doubled. Oakland has won four straight since dropping five of six against Boston and Seattle. □

## Fla. police finish probe into theft of A-Rod docs

**BOCA RATON, Fla. (AP)** — A

Florida police department has completed its investigation into the theft of documents related to baseball's probe into whether Alex Rodriguez used performance enhancing drugs.

The investigation ended April 11 with charges filed against only a tanning salon employee, who was arrested after police said his DNA was found on a car the documents were stolen out of.

However, the police report said Major League Baseball was given repeated warnings that the records they sought had been stolen and that they were not to purchase them. Still, they did so anyway, the report said. Baseball officials have denied knowingly buying stolen records.

Newsday first reported the results of the probe.

The documents were stolen from Porter Fischer's car. He took them from Biogenesis, the Miami clinic where he worked. The clinic and its owner, Tony Bosch, reportedly provided drugs to

Rodriguez and other major league players.

The Biogenesis scandal led to 14 suspensions last summer. Rodriguez, a three-time MVP, was suspended for the entire 2014 season. He filed two lawsuits against MLB over its investigation but later withdrew them. He has denied using performance-enhancing drugs.

Fischer told a Boca Raton police detective that MLB investigators aggressively pursued him for Biogenesis evidence. An MLB attorney offered him \$125,000 for the records, according to the police report. Fischer declined, saying "it was not enough to start a new life."

However, MLB investigators found another South Florida source willing to sell them the records. Gary L. Jones sold MLB a batch of documents on four USB flash drives in exchange for \$100,000, according to the police report. Jones told a Boca Raton detective that MLB knew the documents were stolen. □



# Sam finds comfortable landing spot in St. Louis

RALPH D. RUSSO

AP College Football Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — In St. Louis, Michael Sam might have found the perfect spot to pursue an NFL career and try to become the league's first openly gay player.

He'll have three former Missouri teammates with him on the Rams, including fellow draft pick E.J. Gaines. Sam will be playing for a team with many fans that rooted for him when he was in college, and supported him when he publicly came out. And in coach Jeff Fisher, he'll be playing for someone who didn't shy away from being part of NFL history.

Maybe more than any other place in the NFL, Sam will be allowed to concentrate on playing football and making the team, which is no guarantee for a seventh-round draft choice.

"I think Michael and his entire team feel he went to what was ultimately the right stage and the right place, with the right coach and the right system," said Howard Bragman, a public relations expert who has been working with Sam. "Any rookie already has pressure and Michael has added pressure."

Sam was picked by St. Louis near the end of the sev-

enth round Saturday, with the 248th overall pick.

He'll join former Missouri players T.J. Moe, a receiver, and Tim Barnes, a center, along with Gaines, when the Rams start preparing for the 2014 season. Moe and Sam were in the same recruiting class at Missouri. "I'll certainly do my best to make him feel right at home," Moe said. "It's much bigger deal to the media than it is to the players. Here it's all about football."

An NFL.com writer was in the Rams' draft room and reported late Saturday night that Fisher unexpectedly suggested taking Sam, a player the team had not given much consideration to before.

Fisher is going into his third season with St. Louis after spending 17 seasons with the Titans franchise.

"We're in an age of diversity. Players understand that, they know that," Fisher said. "People will try to make it a distraction but it's not a distraction."

Wade Davis, who is gay and came out publicly well after his playing days, was in training camp with the Tennessee Titans twice when Fisher was their coach.

"As someone who played



In this Nov. 20, 2013, file photo, Missouri defensive lineman Michael Sam takes up his position during the first half of an NCAA college football game against Texas A&M in Columbia, Mo. Sam was selected in the seventh round, 249th overall, by the St. Louis Rams in the NFL draft Saturday, May 10, 2014.

Associated Press

for Coach Fisher, Michael Sam couldn't be going to a better place," said Davis, who is now the executive director of the "You Can Play Project," an advocacy group that works to take homophobia out of sports. Davis said that while Sam is breaking new ground as an openly gay athlete entering a major male professional sports league, he won't be the first gay

athlete whose teammates knew he was gay.

Davis added the bond and intimacy that comes from being a teammate, and the hard work it requires, makes pro sports a better place than most to integrate a gay co-worker.

"I'm a firm believer that sports team, unlike any other job, are more accepting of differences because you put them aside to pursue a

common goal," David said. Missouri coach Gary Pinkel lived through that scenario. Sam came out to his teammates and coaches before the Tigers' 2013 season. They went on to play in the Southeastern Conference championship game. Sam was the conference's defensive player of the year. "It's amazing how sports can have influence on everything," he said.

## MLS Roundup

# Marvin Chavez scores 2, Chivas USA beats Rapids

COMMERCE CITY, Colorado (AP) — Marvin Chavez

scored two twice against his former team as Chivas USA ended an eight-game winless streak with a 3-1 victory over the Colorado Rapids on Sunday.

Erick Torres opened the scoring with his eighth goal of the season in the 56th minute for Chivas before Torres' header beat goalkeeper Clint Irwin to take a 2-0 lead into halftime.

Chavez, who made two appearances for Colorado last season, beat Irwin in the 67th minute and again

off a cross in the 76th minute.

At Portland, Oregon, Diego Valeri scored in the final minute of stoppage time to give the Timbers a 1-1 draw with the Galaxy, shortly after Robbie Keane's header appeared to give Los Angeles the win.

Los Angeles peppered Portland goalkeeper Donovan Ricketts with shots all game, but couldn't break through until Keane's fifth goal of the season.

Javier Morales scored three times to lead Real Salt Lake past a 10-man Hous-

ton Dynamo 5-2 to extend their unbeaten streak to 10 games to start the season. Alvaro Saborio added a goal, and Luke Mulholland scored late in the second half for Salt Lake, while Mark Sherrod scored twice for Houston.

New England's Diego Fagundez scored two first-half goals as the Revolution thrashed the Western Conference-leading Seattle Sounders 5-0.

Fagundez scored his first two goals of the season in the 29th and 41st minutes



Real Salt Lake's Luke Mulholland, left, gets past Houston Dynamo goalkeeper Tally Hall, right, to score a goal during the second half of a MLS soccer game Sunday, May 11, 2014, in Houston. Real Salt Lake won 5-2.

Associated Press

for the Revolution.

Rookie Patrick Mullins, making just his third appearance, scored his

second goal in as many matches to put New England ahead in the 14th minute.



# Kittel sprints to 2nd straight stage win in Giro

**DUBLIN (AP)** — Marcel Kittel sprinted to a second straight stage victory in a wet third leg of the Giro d'Italia on Sunday, while Michael Matthews retained the overall leader's pink jersey.

Kittel looked to have left it too late on his 26th birthday after losing contact with his rivals inside the final kilometer. But the German cyclist came from behind to edge out Ben Swift on the line and deny the Briton a maiden Grand Tour stage victory. Kittel finished in 4 hours, 28 minutes, 43 seconds.

"It was close," Kittel said. "I really was surprised. I was really far back, but I thought 'don't give up, maybe you can do something'.

So at the corner I just sprinted all out and I'm very, very happy."

Elia Viviani was third in a bunch sprint at the end of the 187-kilometer (116-mile) cross-border leg from Armagh to Dublin.

Matthews — whose Orica-GreenEdge team won Friday's opening time trial — will lead the race back to Italy and the Australian has an eight-second advantage over Italian cyclist



**Germany's Marcel Kittel, celebrates as he crosses the finish line to win the 218-kilometer (135-mile) second stage of the Giro d'Italia, Tour of Italy cycling race, from Belfast to Belfast, Northern Ireland, Saturday May 10, 2014.**

Associated Press

Alessandro Petacchi.

"On a flat sprint, (Kittel) is unbeatable," Matthews said. "In the hillier terrain, he will lose some of his top-end speed, but with the leadout he has in these flat stages he's pretty unbeatable at the moment.

"It was incredible today. I got to wear my pink jersey, and the crowds made it even better ... I'm so happy I get to wear it in Italy on Tuesday."

Rain fell intermittently for

most of the day and wet roads caused several crashes, including two large ones, but all the riders were able to continue.

Former winner Michele Scarponi was one of the riders caught up in a large crash around 60 kilometers (37 miles) from the finish.

Several cyclists also suffered technical problems and Swift briefly dropped off the back of the peloton when he had to change his bike with 25 kilometers (15.5 miles) to go. □



**Justin Gatlin, center, of the United States, crosses the finish line ahead of Christophe Lemaitre of France, left, and Yoshihide Kiryu of Japan during the men's 100 meters race at the Golden Grand Prix Track and Field in Tokyo, Sunday, May 11, 2014. Lemaitre was third while Kiryu was fifth.**

Associated Press

## Gatlin clocks 10.02 to win in Tokyo

**TOKYO (AP)** — Justin Gatlin of the United States won the men's 100 meters in 10.02 seconds on Sunday at the Seiko Golden Grand Prix, an IAAF World Challenge event.

Gatlin beat compatriot Mike Rodgers by .09 at Tokyo's National Stadium. Christophe Lemaitre of France was third in 10.31.

"Once I got past the 50-meter mark, I just wanted to stay relaxed," said Gatlin, who had to race into a strong wind.

"If the wind was none, you

might have been looking at another meet record."

World champion Brianna Rollins of the United States won the women's 100 hurdles in a meet record of 12.62, ahead of Lavonne Idlette of the Dominican Republic in 12.91 and Kettie Wells of the United States in 12.98.

Olympic 400-meter champion Kirani James of Grenada won the men's 200 with a time of 20.63, edging Michael Mathieu of the Bahamas by one hundredth of a second. □

### Continued from Page 17

Earlier, Maria Sharapova bounced back from a poor start to defeat Simona Halep 1-6, 6-2, 6-3 to win the women's title.

Nadal became the first repeat winner in Madrid but it was only his second clay-court title of the year, and third overall in 2014.

Nishikori's aggressive start allowed him to jump out to a 5-1 lead as his powerful groundstrokes overwhelmed Nadal, who struggled to find an answer against his Japanese opponent.

"We don't deserve the victory, (Nishikori) deserves it, he played better than us the whole time," Nadal's uncle and coach Toni Nadal told Antenna 3 TV. "We had a lot of luck to-

day. We didn't really come back, he was hurt."

Nishikori broke Nadal again to start the second set to leave the Magic Box center crowd, which included Queen Sofia,

dumbfounded to find Nadal struggling so badly. Nishikori first experienced discomfort while leading 4-2 and Nadal took advantage to break back. Nishikori soon needed a medical timeout for treatment on his back and hip, and his energy then looked sapped as he hit a shot long to concede the set.

Nishikori, who withdrew from next week's tournament in Rome to recover in time for the French Open, visibly struggled in the third before eventually retiring.

"It was very sad, especially

(since) I was winning, playing almost best tennis in my life,"

said Nishikori, who will become the first Japanese player in the top-10 when the new rankings are released.

"It was very tough mentally for me.

But I get a lot of confidence from this tournament.

"You never know what happens today if I'm not hurt. I may have chance to win."

Sharapova, who lost to Serena Williams in last year's final, crumbled in the opening set when she held her serve just once.

But Halep's serve dipped in the second set, and Sharapova started hitting pinpoint ground strokes that kept the fifth-ranked Romanian running. □



**Maria Sharapova from Russia celebrates her victory holding her trophy after a Madrid Open tennis tournament final match against Simona Halep from Romania in Madrid, Spain, Sunday, May 11, 2014.**

Associated Press



# Police add texting to crisis negotiation arsenal

CAROLYN THOMPSON  
Associated Press

Police negotiator Andres Wells was doing all he could to keep a suspect from killing himself after a robbery and chase. But the man kept cutting phone calls short and pointing his handgun to his head. About 10 minutes after the last hangup, Wells' cell-phone chimed. It was a text from the suspect. "Please call Amie," the message said, followed by the number of the man's girlfriend. Wells was surprised. In three years as a negotiator with the Kalamazoo, Michigan, police, he'd always relied on taking cues from a person's tone of voice, the emotions. He'd never thought about negotiating via text. "It had never even been brought up at one of our trainings," Wells recalled of the 2011 case. With 6 billion text messages exchanged daily in the U.S. alone, law enforcement officers are increasingly being called upon to use texting to defuse violent, unpredictable situations.

Experts say it's happened enough in the last five years to warrant new, specialized training. But in Wells' case, he had to adapt right away. "What do you want me to tell her?" he texted back. "The truth," suspect Jesse Cook wrote. While Wells ordinarily would rely on a skill called "active listening," he couldn't hear Cook's voice. Cook couldn't hear his. Was he yelling? Crying?

"It's not the preferred method of communication in a crisis, but if it's the only way that we have, then we'll engage," said New York State Police spokeswoman Darcy Wells. Outside Buffalo, New York, in March, a suspect who'd shot at sheriff's deputies responding to a domestic call was carrying on text exchanges with several relatives when law enforcement negotiators got involved in the electronic conversations, eventually persuading him to surrender. "He didn't want to talk as much as he wanted



In a May 6, 2014 photo, Sgt. Andres Wells of the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety, who successfully used text messaging to negotiate with a suicidal robbery suspect during a 2011 standoff, shows his phone. With 6 billion text messages exchanged daily in the United States, texting is becoming a more frequent part of police crisis negotiations.

Associated Press

to text," Sheriff's Capt. Gregory Savage said. "It wasn't part of the training I got when I went through the crisis negotiator school put on by the FBI, but it's something that they are incorporating into any new training." Red Bank, Tennessee, Police Chief Tim Christol in-

cludes texting in his sessions and has published articles on the topic. "We're losing those verbal cues that we want to listen to to help us decide where this person is — if they're manic at the time, if they're in a state of depression," Christol said. "Words are only 7 percent of commu-

nication." Wells used Cook's text about telling his girlfriend the truth as a way to show empathy and build trust. He texted that he understood the unemployed veteran was trying to provide for his girlfriend and daughter when he robbed the gas station.

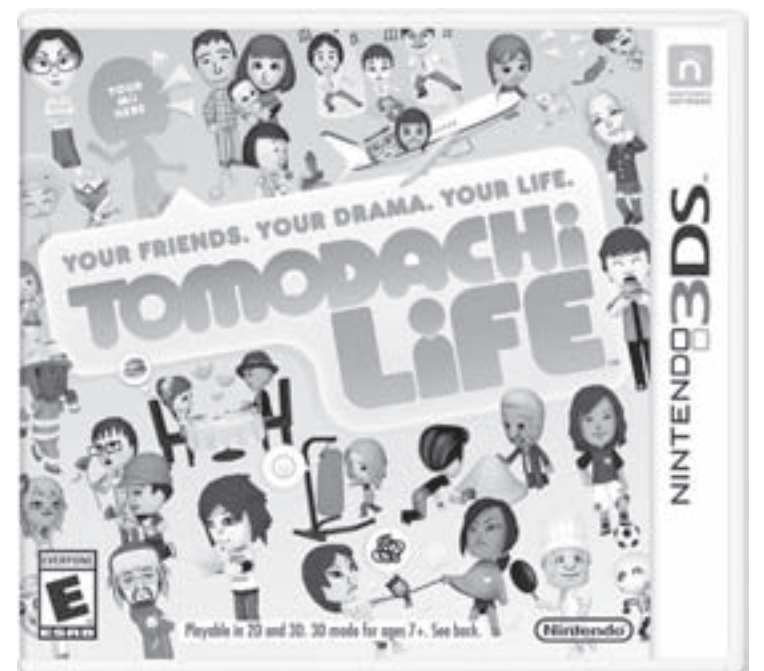
## Nintendo apologizes for lack of virtual equality

DERRIK J. LANG  
AP Entertainment Writer

Nintendo is apologizing and pledging to be more inclusive after being criticized for not recognizing same-sex relationships in English editions of a life-simulator video game. The publisher said that while it was too late to change the current game, it was committed to building virtual equality into future versions if they're produced. Nintendo came under fire from fans and gay rights organizations this past week after refusing to add same-sex relationship options to the game "Tomodachi Life." "We apologize for disappointing many people by failing to include same-sex relationships in Tomodachi Life," Nintendo said in a statement released Friday. "Unfortunately, it is not possible for us to change this

game's design, and such a significant development change can't be accomplished with a post-ship patch." The game was originally released in Japan last year and features a cast of Mii characters — Nintendo's personalized avatars of real players — living on a virtual island. Gamers can do things like shop, play games, go on dates, get married and encounter celebrities like Christina Aguilera and Shaquille O'Neal. Already a hit in Japan, "Tomodachi Life" is set for release June 6 in North America and Europe. Tye Marini, a 23-year-old gay Nintendo fan from Mesa, Arizona, launched a social media campaign last month seeking virtual equality for the game's characters. "I want to be able to marry my real-life fiancé's Mii, but I can't do that," Mari-

ni said in a video posted online that attracted the attention of gaming sites and online forums this past week. "My only options are to marry some female Mii, to change the gender of either my Mii or my fiancé's Mii or to completely avoid marriage altogether and miss out on the exclusive content that comes with it." Marini said Saturday that he was "very happy" with Nintendo's response. "I don't believe they are a homophobic company at all," Marini said. "I think that the exclusion of same-sex relationships was just an unfortunate oversight." Yet the issue does mark a cultural divide between Japan, where gay marriage is not legal, and North America and Europe, where gay marriage has become legal in some places. It also highlights the problems with



This photo provided by Nintendo shows the cover of the video game, "Tomodachi Life."

Associated Press

"localization," the process when games are changed to suit different locales and customs. The uproar prompted Kyoto, Japan-based Nintendo Co. and its subsidiary Nintendo of America Inc. to

pledge to create a more inclusive "Tomodachi" installment in the future. "We are committed to advancing our longtime company values of fun and entertainment for everyone," Nintendo said on Friday.



## FedEx's price rise a blessing for Amazon

Claire Cain Miller

© 2014 New York Times

No. 1 on the list of chores the Internet has done away with: dragging yourself to the store to stock up on unwieldy items and carting them home. Many e-commerce companies - led by Amazon.com and the sites it owns, like Diapers.com and Soap.com - have made it easy to order even items like toilet paper and diapers without paying a cent for shipping.

So when FedEx announced last week that it would

that are already losing the battle with Amazon. The Internet might have made it possible for the smallest of businesses to sell their wares, but the price of delivering cardboard boxes highlights just how powerful an advantage size can be in the Internet economy.

The main reason is that standard shipping rates simply do not apply to Amazon. The company negotiates its own rates with FedEx and other shipping companies, and gets an enviable deal because of

merce site based in Long Island, New York, said he might try to fit more items into smaller boxes if UPS, his shipping service, also changed pricing, but he would not start charging shoppers more for shipping. Ultimately, he said, "We're going to have to eat it."

Smaller boxes would probably be a relief to people who care about the environment or just want more space in their recycling bins. But for small online retailers, it is another added expense because they



**Bryan Sanders in the warehouse of Singer22, a clothing store and online retailer, in East Hills, N.Y., May 9, 2014. FedEx's price increase, which analysts say UPS is likely to match, could further cement Amazon's power over retailing by striking a bigger blow to small Internet retailers. "We're going to have to eat it," said Jon Singer, founder of Singer22.**

(Christopher Gregory/The New York Times)

change its shipping prices to charge for the space a package occupies in a truck, not just its weight, many analysts suggested that Amazon would be the biggest victim. Shipping costs already eat into its slim profits, and as any Internet shopper knows, Amazon has a habit of mailing items from a single order in multiple oversize boxes, often with free two-day shipping.

But FedEx needs Amazon more than Amazon needs FedEx. Instead, FedEx's price increase - which happens in January and which analysts say UPS is likely to match - could further cement Amazon's power over retailing by striking a bigger blow to small Internet retailers, the same ones

the huge volume of business it supplies.

Put another way: FedEx would rather give Amazon a sizeable discount than lose Amazon as a customer altogether.

"The big guys always do better whenever there's a change, because they can bring clout to the negotiations," said Fiona Dias, chief strategy officer at ShopRunner, an e-commerce service that offers free shipping at a variety of retailers. "Little retailers don't have that clout."

The Web operation of your local book or shoe store also gets retailer discounts from shipping companies, but they are not as deep. Jon Singer, founder and chief executive of Singer22, a retail store and e-com-

merce site based in Long Island, New York, said he might try to fit more items into smaller boxes if UPS, his shipping service, also changed pricing, but he would not start charging shoppers more for shipping.

Smaller boxes would probably be a relief to people who care about the environment or just want more space in their recycling bins. But for small online retailers, it is another added expense because they

have to buy more sizes of box. Now they generally buy only a few. "You're going to have to weigh shipping air across the country and paying extra for that, or buying more custom-fitted boxes and paying extra because you have all these size of boxes sitting around," Dias said. And FedEx has added incentive to maintain its side of the deal with Amazon, because Amazon has already signaled to FedEx and the other delivery companies that it doesn't necessarily need them as much as it once did. It is beginning to deliver its own packages, often the same day, and offers lockers in various cities where shoppers can pick up the items they ordered.

## Figuring out really how your mutual fund manager votes

STAN CHOE

AP Business Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Do you think a particular CEO makes too much money? Would you like to replace the directors who signed off on that salary? Or to vote on a company's environmental policy?

If you own stock in a company, you get such opportunities. Every year, companies open the polls at their annual meetings, and shareholders elect directors to the board and vote on various policies. At Bank of America's meeting on Wednesday, for example, shareholders weighed in on executive compensation and whether to force the bank to tally its impact on greenhouse-gas emissions.

But investors who prefer owning mutual funds to individual stocks don't get to vote. Instead, the managers of their mutual funds do, carrying the weight of all the investors in the fund. Roughly half the companies in the Standard & Poor's 500 index hold their annual meetings in May, so many of those votes are occurring now.

Investors can see how their mutual funds voted on issues over the prior year: Funds typically list their voting results on their websites, and they also file documents with the Securities and Exchange Commission detailing their choices.

Because fund managers would rather spend time buying and selling stocks than studying proposals for each corporate meeting, many funds hire an advisory firm to help them. Institutional Shareholder Services, better known as ISS, is such a company. It has about 1,700 clients and issues vote recommendations on nearly 39,000 companies around the world.

The votes cast by mutual funds carry big weight. Vanguard, which controls more than \$2 trillion in assets, is often a company's largest shareholder after totaling the investments across all of its funds. Vanguard and other large fund families say they vote based on what will drive the best long-term value for their investments. Vanguard prefers that the majority of directors on a company's board be independent of management, for example.

Consider UPS, in which Vanguard funds collectively own about 5.1 percent of the outstanding shares, according to FactSet. Last year, Vanguard's Total Stock Market Index fund -- the largest mutual fund with \$323.7 billion in assets -- voted for a proposal to make all shares of stock have the same voting rights. The fund's managers were hoping to replace the current system under which some UPS shares carry greater influence, with 10 votes per share.

The fund voted against the recommendation of UPS management, though the proposal failed to pass. The fund also voted for all 12 of the nominees that management had recommended for its board of directors. At Leggett & Platt, which makes mattress inner-springs and other products, Vanguard's Total Stock Market Index fund last year voted for a proposal to explicitly prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity at the company. The vote was against the recommendation of the company's management, which said that it is already an equal-opportunity employer. The company also said that it believes written policies should specifically list only the types of discrimination prohibited by federal law. The proposal failed to pass.

Vanguard, though, acknowledges that "it would be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible" to reflect the social concerns of all its shareholders while maximizing returns.



# A possible path to closing the real pay gap

**SENDHIL MULLAINATHAN**  
© 2014 New York Times

It's 2014, and women are still paid less than men. Does this suggest that a gender pay gap is an unfortunately permanent fixture? Will it still be with us in 50 years? I would predict yes. But by that point, it will be men who will be earning less than women.

My forecast is based on evidence from schools, where it has been easier to work toward a level playing field than in the workplace.

Academically, girls have not merely caught up with boys in performance: they have overtaken them. In a study issued last year, and using data from 2000 to 2009, the economists Nicole M. Fortin, Philip Oreopoulos and Shelley Phipps found that 20.7 percent of female high school seniors had an "A" grade-point average, versus 14.7 percent of boys. In 2012, more than 70 percent of high school valedictorians were girls. The trend extends into college. One study of Florida public colleges, by the economists Dylan Conger and Mark C. Long and covering the years 2002 to 2005, found that women had higher grade-point averages and were also more likely to stay in school. And the Harvard economists Claudia Goldin and Lawrence F. Katz also show in their book, "The Race Between Education and Technology," how times have changed. They report that by age 30, a man born in 1945 was roughly 50 percent more likely than a woman to have completed college - but that men born from 1960 to 1975 were less likely to complete college than women. For the group born in 1975, the gap was nearly 25 percent.

"Whenever educational opportunities are made available on a relatively equal basis for females," Katz told me, "they tend to excel in completion and grades with some field differences." As opportunities equalize in the workplace, will we also see a reversal of the gender pay gap?

One reason to think it's possible arises from why boys underperform in school in the first place. The prime suspect for this underperformance is boys' shortage of what social scientists call noncognitive skills. They have trouble sitting still, focusing and exerting self-control. Brian A. Jacob, an economist at the University of Michigan, found in a study published in 2002 that boys' behavioral problems explain a substantial share of women's advantage in college enrollment. One paper drove home this point by showing that girls outperform boys on tests requiring preparation, but not on those measuring aptitude.

Employers demand these same noncognitive skills. Those that it takes to succeed in college - time management, writing ability, structuring tasks on your own, working in teams - are also needed in the modern workplace.

Despite my crisp prediction, there are two reasons to believe that the trend seen in schools may not translate to the workplace. First, some evidence points



**Girls' ascendance in academic settings may portend a shift in the pay of men and women, but a change in social norms is needed, too.**

(Anna Parini/The New York Times)

to other gender differences in psychology. Laboratory experiments - many by the economist Muriel Niederle of Stanford - show that men fare better in competitive

environments, in part because they are more confident. (Yes, overconfidence can be a help in such environments.) Even when a man and a woman per-

form equally well in a task - say, solving math problems - men are more willing to enter competitions based on that task. Men also show less risk aversion. These differences - competitiveness, overconfidence and risk-seeking - could conceivably have greater benefits in the workplace, at least in some jobs, than they do in school. A second factor is that jobs and society are still structured for traditional gender roles. Family commitments and household responsibilities will not disappear. Closing or reversing the gender gap, as Goldin noted in her presidential address to the American Economic Association, "must involve alterations in the labor market, in particular changing how jobs are structured and remunerated to enhance temporal flexibility."

It will also require change in social norms and identities, as the economists Marianne Bertrand and Emir Kamenica, at the University of Chicago, and Jessica Pan, at the National University of Singapore, have shown. □

## The older cling to jobs, crowding out the young

**FLOYD NORRIS**  
© 2014 New York Times

The proportion of Americans with jobs fell sharply during the Great Recession and has barely begun to recover, according to overall figures.

In 2007, before the downturn began, 63 percent of working-age Americans held jobs. That proportion fell to just higher than 58 percent, and was a little lower than 59 percent last month. But the underlying reality may not be that grim. Overall, it appears that about one-third of the decline since 2007 can be accounted for by the natural reduction in the proportion of people working as more people reach retirement age. But that leaves two-thirds that came from the weak economy. Since employment bottomed in 2011, adjusting for demographics indicates that

about half the decline has been reversed.

In general, the older the group, the more likely it has been to hold onto jobs through the recession and recovery. In every age group older than 62, the proportion of both men and women who are employed is higher than it was before the recession.

Much of that change probably does not involve people getting new jobs but instead shows that those with jobs are more reluctant to retire than their predecessors were before the recession. Such people may have greater fears about paying for retirement, reflecting both the fall in home prices during the downturn and the declining presence of defined-benefit pension plans. Even those with substantial savings may be concerned, with interest rates so low

that they can earn little on their savings without taking on significant amounts of risk.

Those decisions collectively may be having a crowding-out effect on younger workers, by not freeing up jobs that could prompt promotions for some and new hiring to replace those who were promoted.

If so, you may expect the biggest decline in employment to be among those just entering the labor force. And that is what happened. Among men age 20 to 24, the proportion working fell from 70.4 percent in early 2007 to 58.7 percent in early 2010. That figure has bounced back a little, to 62.7 percent this year. Many people in that age group are college students, of course, and may not be looking for work.

Among men between the ages of 25 and 29 - an

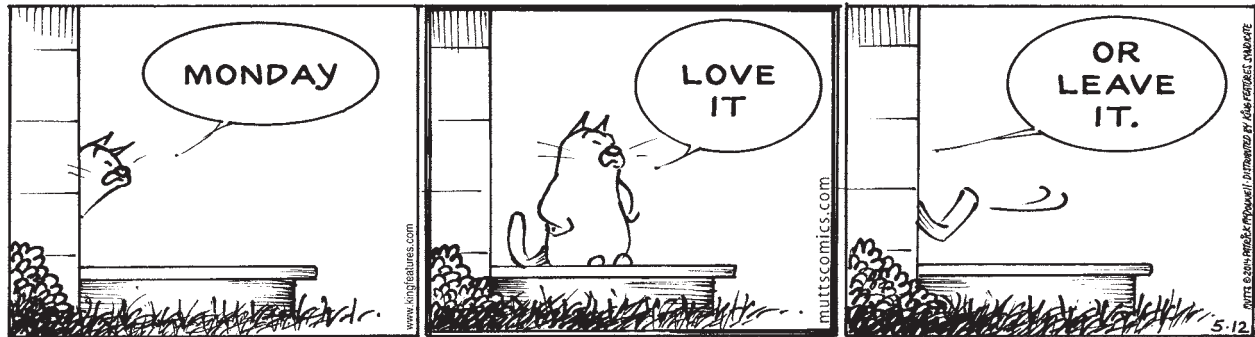
age when most are out of school - the proportion with jobs fell from 85.9 percent in 2007 to only 76.6 percent in 2010. It has since gone back to 79.6 percent, but that figure has barely budged over the past three years.

The declines among older prime-age workers have generally been smaller, reflecting, in part, the fact that more of those people were likely to have had jobs before the recession and have been able to hold onto them.

In almost all age groups, women did better than men during the downturn. Perhaps more women entered or re-entered the labor force to help out when their husbands lost work or took wage cuts. In addition, some of the hardest-hit occupations - particularly construction - were dominated by men. □



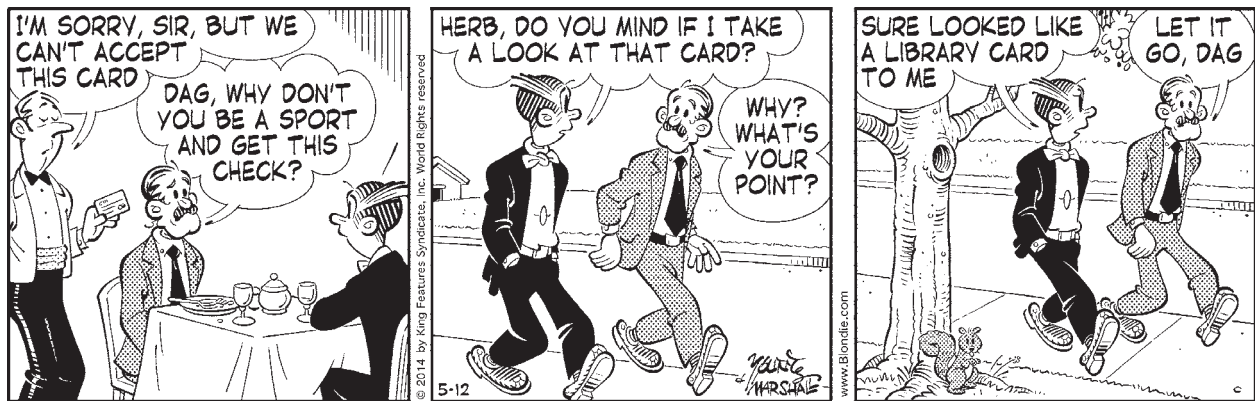
Mutts



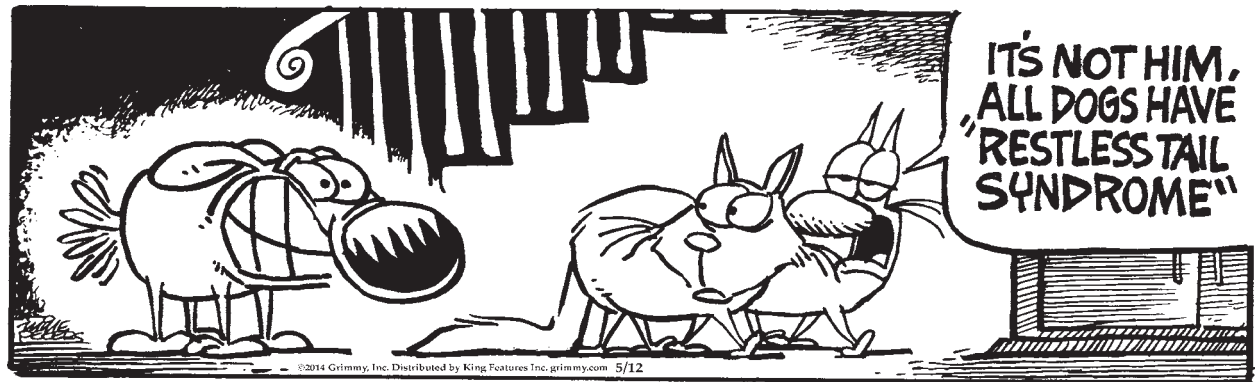
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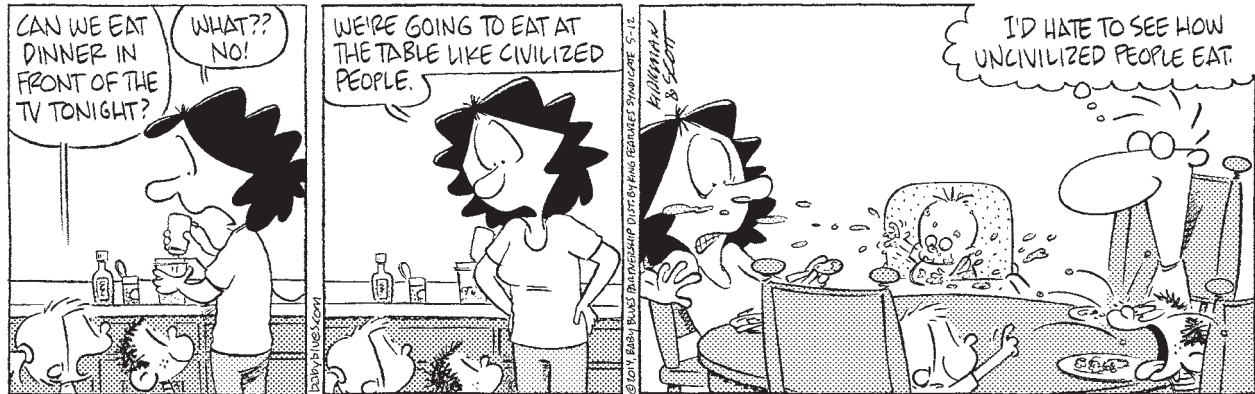
Blondie



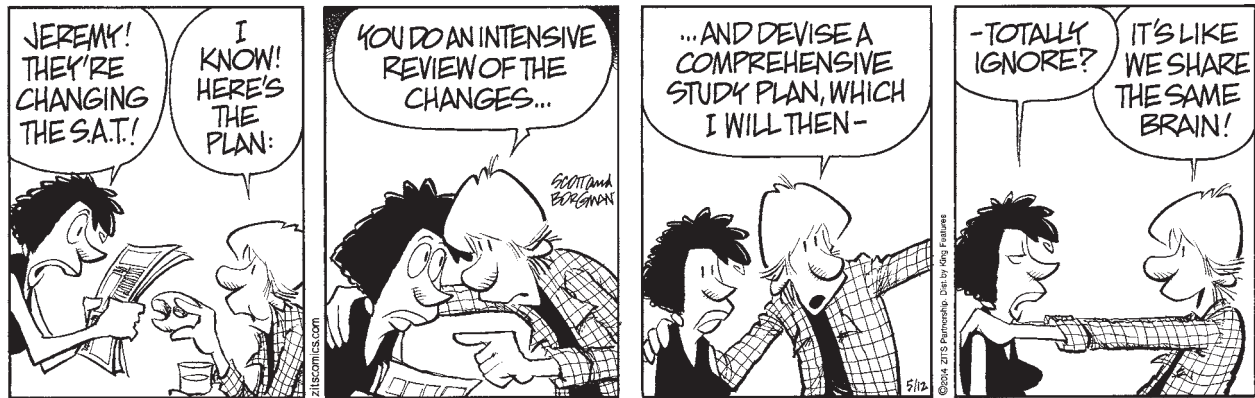
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

8				4				
	6					9		1
	5	4	6	3	9	7		
			2				7	
5			8	9	1			6
	2				6			
		9	3	1	5	4	6	
4		8					9	
				8				7

Difficulty Level ★ 5/12

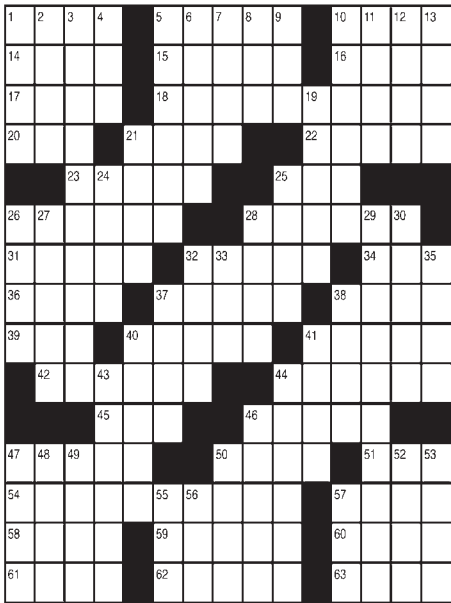
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

9	7	3	8	2	1	6	5	4
6	2	8	3	5	4	1	7	9
5	1	4	6	7	9	3	2	8
1	6	7	4	8	3	5	9	2
2	8	9	5	1	6	4	3	7
4	3	5	2	9	7	8	1	6
7	4	2	1	3	8	9	6	5
8	5	1	9	6	2	7	4	3
3	9	6	7	4	5	2	8	1

ACROSS

- 1 On \_\_; offered at a lower price  
5 Tear into bits  
10 Capable  
14 Make smooth, as clothing  
15 \_\_ as an ape  
16 Actor Pitt  
17 \_\_ down; stoop  
18 Treating cruelly  
20 Droop  
21 Hits with a stun gun  
22 Like neglected gardens  
23 Milan's nation  
25 Cackling bird  
26 Bricklayers  
28 Wax \_\_; speak with rhythm and beauty  
31 Narrow street  
32 Flock members  
34 Spoil; deface  
36 Urge on; incite  
37 "Blue \_\_"; song by Irving Berlin  
38 Lively  
39 Hotel  
40 Pilot  
41 Use a razor  
42 Fisher & Albert  
44 Graduate papers, often  
45 Tally up  
46 Parka features  
47 Humiliation  
50 Go skyward  
51 Flurry  
54 Many law office employees  
57 In the sack  
58 Shade trees  
59 TV's "Uncle Mitie"  
60 \_\_ in; wearing  
61 Writing table  
62 "God \_\_ America"; song for Kate Smith  
63 Kennedy and Koppel
- DOWN
- 1 Brothers and sisters, for short  
32 Jean-Claude Killy's footwear  
33 Rush



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/12/14

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

DOGS	CRIES	ARTS
AXLE	RODEO	REAP
TEAR	ADORN	MAMA
ANDREWS	IGNORES	
	ALL	CESAR
PATTY	JAR	NEARS
HIRE	WAD	ANDREA
ARE	PENALTY	DAB
SEALED	VIE	DODO
EDDIE	RED	WORST
	ORDER	GAL
BRONSON	FOREARM	
RAVE	SABER	FLEA
AGES	EMOTE	USER
YENS	SEWED	LODE

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5/12/14

- 35 Deli loaves  
37 Toboggan  
38 Get rid of  
40 Cuba's Castro  
41 Loafer or pump  
43 Lustrous jacquard fabric  
44 Throws  
46 Beverly \_\_, CA
- 47 Raced  
48 Vigorous  
49 Weapons  
50 Unusual  
52 Deceased  
53 Likelihood  
55 Recede  
56 Set  
57 Play a role



# Civilians killed by the U.S. in Yemen tied to al-Qaida

Continued from page 9

Yemeni officials have not yet publicly acknowledged that Americans were responsible for killing the attackers, referring only to "foreigners."

In Washington, spokesmen for the State Department, Pentagon and CIA declined on Saturday to provide any details about the shooting. U.S. officials, however, said they strongly suspected that the al-Qaida branch in Yemen was behind the attempted kidnapping, and that embassy personnel were targets of other planned kidnappings. The State Department acknowledged Friday only that two embassy officers had shot and killed two assailants who tried to kidnap them, and that the shooting was under investigation.

Two U.S. officials identified the men as a Special Operations commando and a CIA officer.

The killings have an echo of a 2011 case in which a CIA security officer, Raymond A. Davis, was jailed for weeks after killing two Pakistanis on a crowded street in Lahore.

On Saturday, witnesses and Yemeni officials gave a slightly different account of the shooting, saying that only one of the foreigners had actually fired his weapon, striking each of the attackers at least twice.

Qaidi said the kidnappers had pretended to be police officers. The foreigner who fired at them was carrying a licensed weapon, he said, and first shot the Yemeni man carrying the AK-47 before shooting his partner.

Shopkeepers and witnesses said the police questioned the barbershop staff for a few hours, and took away the owner, but he was later released. Individuals who witnesses believed were relatives of the gunmen came to collect their bodies, argued with the police, and were arrested.

Later that night, officers returned, and took a copy of a recording made by a



In this photo provided by Yemen's Defense Ministry, Yemen's army soldiers hold up their weapons at an area seized from al-Qaida in the southeastern province of Shabwa, Yemen. New details emerged this weekend about a shooting last month in which the Obama administration said two Americans from the U.S. Embassy killed two armed Yemenis who were trying to kidnap them from the barbershop.

(AP Photo/Yemen's Defense Ministry)

video camera at the barbershop, shopkeepers and witnesses said, and then destroyed the equipment. The shop has been closed since the shooting, though

it was opened briefly so the employees could clean it, other shopkeepers said. Many other questions remain unanswered about what exactly the two

Americans were doing at a barbershop on a street frequented by Westerners in the Yemeni capital, apparently with no security detail.

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TAXI	582-5900
TAXI-TAS	587-5900
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TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
SERVICE ARUBA	583-3232

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**Carnival Liberty**

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Avianca	588-0059
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Insel Air	588-9314
Jet Blue	588-2244
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# Genetically modified foods confuse U.S. consumers

MARY CLARE JALONICK

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Genetically modified foods have been around for years, but most Americans have no idea if they are eating them.

The Food and Drug Administration says they don't need to be labeled. But in the first major victory for consumers who say they have the right to know whether their food contains GMOs, the state of Vermont has moved forward on its own. On Thursday, Gov. Peter Shumlin signed legislation making his state the first to require labeling of genetically modified organisms, or GMOs.

Throughout the country, there's a lot of confusion about genetically modified foods and their safety, and whether labeling matters.

The food industry and companies that genetically engineer seeds have pushed back against the labeling laws, saying GMOs are safe and labels would be misleading.

"It's really polarizing," says New York University's Marion Nestle, a professor of nutrition and food studies. "There's no middle ground."

GMOs are not really a "thing," Nestle says, and that's hard for the average consumer to grasp. You can't touch or feel a GMO. Genetically modified foods



**Katie Spring rolls up plastic that was used to cover certain plants during the winter in a field at the Good Heart Farmstead, Thursday, April 24, 2014, in Worcester, Vt. Spring and her husband Edge Fuentes, who both own the farm, back the GMO labeling bill passed by the Vermont Legislature. They believe people need to be able to know what's in their food**

Associated Press

are plants or animals that have had genes copied from other plants or animals inserted into their DNA. It's not a new idea — humans have been tinkering with genes for centuries through selective breeding. Think dogs bred to be more docile pets, cattle bred to be beefier or tomatoes bred to be sweeter. What's different about genetically modified or engineered foods is that the manipulation is done in a lab. Engineers don't need to wait for nature to produce a desired gene; they speed up the process by

transferring a gene from one plant or animal to another.

Most of the nation's corn and soybeans are genetically engineered to resist pests and herbicides. A papaya in Hawaii is modified to resist a virus. The FDA is considering an application from a Massachusetts company to approve a genetically engineered salmon that would grow faster than traditional salmon. Only a small amount of sweet corn, the corn Americans eat, is genetically modified. Most of the genetically modified corn and soybeans are used in cattle feed, or are made into ingredients like corn oil, corn starch, high fructose corn syrup or soybean oil. Even in some of those products, the manufacturing process itself may remove some of

the modified genes.

A few fruits and vegetables are engineered — the Hawaiian papaya and some squash and zucchini, for example. But there's no genetically modified meat or fish, like the fast-growing salmon, currently in the market for human consumption; the Food and Drug Administration has yet to approve any.

The vast majority of scientific research has found genetically engineered foods to be generally safe.

An Italian scientist's review of 10 years of research, published in 2013, concluded that the scientific research conducted so far has not detected "any significant hazard directly connected with the use of GM crops."

One French research team raised safety questions, but

their much-criticized 2012 study linking genetically modified corn to rat tumors was retracted in 2013 by the scientific publisher, who cited weak evidence supporting the conclusions. Even the food police say they are safe: The Center for Science in the Public Interest, a well-known critic of food companies and artificial and unhealthy ingredients in foods, has not opposed genetically modified foods, on the basis that there's no evidence they are harmful.

Though what we are eating now appears safe, the main concerns for the future would be new genetically engineered foods — from the United States or abroad — that somehow become allergenic or toxic through the engineering process. The FDA says the foods they have evaluated to this point have not been any more likely to cause an allergic or toxic reaction than foods from traditionally bred plants.

Unlike animals, the FDA is not required to approve genetically engineered crops for consumption. However, most companies will go through a voluntary safety review process before they put them on the market.

There are clear benefits for the agricultural industry — the crops that are resistant to pesticides and herbicides, for example. And companies like Monsanto that produce modified seeds say their technologies will be needed to feed a rising world population as they engineer crops to adapt to certain climates and terrains. □

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# Maroon 5, Shakira rock Wango Tango



Adam Levine of Maroon 5 performs on stage at 102.7 KIIS FM's Wango Tango at the StubHub Center, Saturday, May 10, 2014, in Carson, Calif.

Associated Press

NICOLE EVATT  
Associated Press

CARSON, California (AP) — Wango Tango alum Adam Levine welcomed a new generation of concert-goers to the annual, daylong music festival Saturday. Before performing his hit "Pay Phone" the Maroon 5 frontman recalled his Wango debut in 2004. "Half of you guys weren't even alive. So welcome," said a platinum blond Levine.

Colombian singer Shakira,

British rocker Ed Sheeran and EDM producer-DJ Tiesto were the final acts at the StubHub Center in Carson, California.

A Great Big World and Christina Aguilera sang their emotional ballad "Say Something." The pregnant pop star, who arrived late and breathless, said she had kicked off her heels and sprinted for the stage. Other performers included Iggy Azalea, Ariana Grande, Calvin Harris, One Republic and Paramore. □

# Larry Wilmore to replace Colbert on Comedy Central

NEW YORK (AP) — Comic Larry Wilmore of the "Daily Show" has earned Stephen Colbert's coveted Comedy Central timeslot following Jon Stewart each night. Comedy Central said Friday that Wilmore will host "The Minority Report" at 11:30 each weeknight. An African-American, Wilmore will add a different perspective to a late-night landscape dominated by white males. Colbert is ending his Comedy Central show at the end of this year and will take over for David Letterman at CBS' "Late Show" next year. □



In this Monday, June 10, 2013, photo, Larry Wilmore accepts the best talk show award for "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" at the Critics' Choice Television Awards in the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

# Hugh Jackman has another cancerous growth removed

JOHN CARUCCI  
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Hugh Jackman has had another cancerous growth removed.

The 45-year-old actor attended the premiere of his latest film, "X-Men: Days of Future Past" Saturday with a bandage over his nose. He told The Associated Press he had a basal-cell carcinoma removed two nights earlier.

Jackman said learned the results of a recent biopsy earlier on Thursday and had it removed right after. Basal-cell carcinoma is a slow-growing form of skin cancer. Jackman was treated for the same dis-



Hugh Jackman attends the "X-Men: Days of Future Past" world premiere on Saturday, May 10, 2014, in New York.

Associated Press

ease last year but said the prognosis was good: "It's all out now."

He urges others to "get checkups and wear sunscreen." □

# Questlove to produce music series for VH1

MESFIN FEKADU  
AP Music Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Jimmy Fallon's late-night show isn't the only TV program getting help from Questlove.

The Roots leader is executive producing a music series for VH1 that will feature three artists performing together on one stage. "SoundClash" debuts July 23 with Lil Wayne, Fall Out Boy and buzzed-about British group London Grammar.

The concept behind the series is to showcase A-list musicians and rising acts performing a range of songs, from current hits to covers to collaborative numbers.

Ed Sheeran, singer-song-



In this June 8, 2013 file photo, Questlove arrives at Spike TV's Guys Choice Awards at Sony Pictures Studios in Culver City, Calif.

Associated Press

writer Sia and alternative rock band Grouplove will appear on the second episode, to air July 30.

More episodes will be an-

nounced later.

Diplo, the DJ who has produced for Beyonce and M.I.A., will host "SoundClash." □

# Britney Spears adds shows to Las Vegas residency

MESFIN FEKADU  
AP Music Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Caesars Entertainment says Britney Spears is adding more than 30 dates to her Las Vegas residency.

"Britney: Piece of Me" will

now play shows in October through December and February. Shows have also been added in August and September.

The Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino says the first round of shows in Au-

gust and September sold out.

The 31-year-old Spears kicked off the two-year residency late last year around the time she released her eighth album, "Britney Jean." □



# Summer movies highlight 20s to 30s shift

**JESSICA HERNDON**

**AP Film Writer**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Films about transitioning to adulthood have been a Hollywood staple for years. Some of today's biggest stars got their start as 20-somethings in mostly carefree coming-of-age movies.

But what about the often more complicated progression from our 20s to 30s? There have generally been fewer of those treatments on the big screen — that is, until now.

This summer, charming indies and raunchy comedies — including this weekend's "Neighbors" — explore what could be one of life's most challenging decades,

but always with humor and also some surprising box office potential for studios. While the 30s can be a satisfying time, full of firsts like marriage, buying a home and having children, the period can also bring tough crossroads both personally and professionally. Yet films like "Neighbors" and the upcoming "Happy Christmas" and "Wish I Was Here" highlight the humor in common 30s plights while offering everyday relevancy to audiences in that age group.

In "Neighbors," a couple (Seth Rogen and Rose Byrne) and their newborn baby buy their first house,



This photo released by Focus Features shows Kate Hudson, left, and Zach Braff in a scene from the comedy, "Wish I Was Here."

but their life is disrupted when a fraternity (led by Zac Efron) moves in next door.

"Yes, there are ridiculous, outrageous jokes," says Dave Karger, chief correspondent of movie ticket-seller Fandango. "But there's also real poignancy there and very relatable characters in their 30s."

In "Happy Christmas," due in July, an irresponsible 20-something (Anna Kendrick) moves in with her 30-something brother

(Joe Swanberg), who has a 2-year-old with his wife (Melanie Lynskey), a stay-at-home mom who starts writing a trashy novel to ease her boredom.

A decade after Zach Braff tackled tragedy as a 20-something in "Garden State," he portrays love and loss in his 30s in July's "Wish I Was Here," which follows a struggling actor (Braff) who must home-school his two kids after his father's cancer worsens and he can no longer af-

ford private school. Kate Hudson plays his wife, a woman who hates her job, but must stick it out to provide for her family.

"What that age group is going through, it's not just a wacky high school night out or a college first love," says Karger.

"The particular themes, like an early mid-life crisis, are really interesting." Character-based films have never been an easy sell for studios or audiences, notes Karger. "The main audience that

you think of at the theater is teen boys and 20-somethings."

But the 25 to 39-year-old demographic actually makes up the largest amount of frequent moviegoers.

In 2013, they equaled 23 percent of those who go to the movies more than once a month, according to the 2013 Theatrical Market Statistics Report by the Motion Picture Association of America. This age group was also highest in both 2011 and 2012.

Other films targeted for the 25-39 demo this summer include "Blended," starring Drew Barrymore and Adam Sandler; "Begin Again," with Mark Ruffalo and Keira Knightley; and "They Came Together," featuring Amy Poehler and Paul Rudd.

Though they won't tally as much as the superhero flicks, films targeting 30-somethings can be among the most profitable because they don't cost as much to make.

Additionally, "the good ones have a long shelf life," says Alex Ben Block, senior film editor of The Hollywood Reporter. "With classic movies of the genre like 'When Harry Met Sally,' 'Sleepless in Seattle' or 'Bridget Jones's Diary,' you got a pretty good run in the theater and then in home video, DVD or digital." □



This image released by Universal Pictures shows Rose Byrne, left, and Seth Rogen in a scene from the film, "Neighbors."

**Associated Press**

**SANDY COHEN**

**AP Entertainment Writer**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Seth Rogen and Zac Efron have bested Spider-Man at the box office.

Rogen and Efron's family-versus-fraternity comedy "Neighbors" was the top draw for moviegoers this weekend, unseating last week's champ, "The

## 'Neighbors' unseats Spider-Man 2 to top box office

Amazing Spider-Man 2." "Neighbors" debuted with \$51 million in ticket sales, pushing Spidey to second place with \$37 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

"Sustaining a No. 1 ranking is generally tougher in the summer than any other time of year," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box-office tracker Rentrak. "You don't expect a comedy to be able to unseat an epic blockbuster, but historically it happens more than you

think." Raunchy comedies have traditionally found success in the summer movie season: Think "Bridesmaids," "The Hangover," 2012's "Ted" and last year's "The Heat."

"Neighbors" stars Rogen and Rose Byrne as new parents finding their footing in the suburbs when a fraternity led by Efron moves in next door. Filled with goofball and gross-out gags balanced with a dash of heart, the comedy boasts some epic party scenes

and ample shirtless Efron. The Universal release earned a "fresh" rating from review aggregator RottenTomatoes.com, with 74 percent of film critics responding favorably to the film. Conversely, Sony's "Amazing Spider-Man 2" earned a "rotten" rating of 54 percent.

Spidey is still a major success, with more than \$550 million in worldwide ticket sales so far.

"Spider-Man has nothing to worry about," Dergarabedian said. □



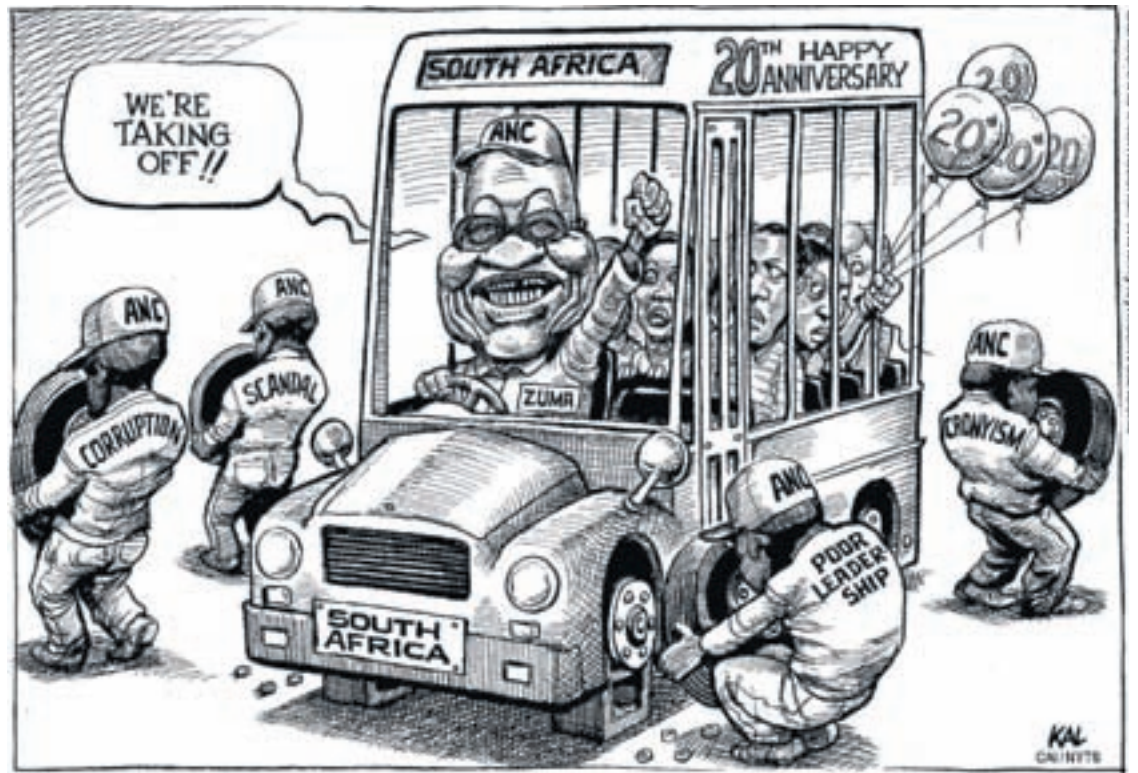
# The Real Africa



DAVID BROOKS  
© 2014 New York Times

In 2005, Binyavanga Wainaina published a brilliantly sarcastic essay in *Granta* called "How to Write About Africa," advising people on how to sound spiritual and compassionate while writing a book about the continent. "Always use the word 'Africa' or 'Darkness' or 'Safari' in your title," Wainaina advised. "Never have a picture of a well-adjusted African on the cover of your book, or in it, unless that African has won the Nobel Prize. An AK-47, prominent ribs, naked breasts: use these. If you must include an African, make sure you get one in Masai or Zulu or Dogon dress." Wainaina had other tips: The people in said book should be depicted as hungry, suffering, simple or dead. The children should have distended bellies and flies on their faces. The animals, on the other hand, should be depicted as wise and filled with family values. Elephants are caring and good feminists. So are gorillas. Be sure to show how profoundly you are moved by the continent and its woes, and how much it has penetrated your soul. End with a quote from Nelson Mandela involving rainbows. Because you care. There's been something similarly distorted to some of the social media reactions to the Boko Haram atrocities over the past week. It's great that the kidnappings and the massacres are finally arousing the world's indignation. But sometimes the implication of the conversation has been this: Africa is this dark and lawless place where monstrous things are bound to happen. Those poor people need our help. But this is more or less the opposite of the truth. Boko Haram is not the main story in Africa or even in Nigeria. It is a small rear-guard reaction to the main story. The main story in Africa is an impressive surge of growth, urbanization and modernization, which has sparked panic in a few people who don't like these things. Many countries in sub-Saharan Africa are growing at a phenomenal clip. Nigeria's economy grew by 6.7 percent in 2012. Mozambique's grew by 7.4 percent, Ghana's by 7.9 percent. Economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa as a whole is predicted to reach 5.2 percent this year. Investment funds are starting up by the dozen, finding local entrepreneurs.

In 2011, roughly 60 million African households earned at least \$3,000 a year. By next year, more than 100 million households will make that much. Trade between Africa and the rest of the world has increased by 200 percent since 2000. Since 1996, the poverty rate has fallen by 1 percent per year. Life expectancies are shooting up. Only about a third of this new wealth is because of commodities. Nations like Ethiopia and Rwanda, which have no oil wealth, are growing phenomenally. The bulk is because of economic reforms, increased productivity, increased urbanization and the fact that in many countries political systems are becoming marginally less dysfunctional. Africa should not be seen as merely the basket case continent where students, mission trips and celebrities can go to do good work. It has become the test case of 21st-century modernity. It is the place where the pace of modernization is fast, and where the forces that resist modernization are mounting a daring reaction. We are seeing three distinct clashes. They're happening all over the world, but they exist in bold contrast in Africa. The first is the clash over pluralism. Africa has seen an explosion of cellphone usage. It's seen a rapid expansion of urbanization. In 1980, only 28 percent of Africans lived in cities, but today 40 percent do. This has led to a greater mixing of tribal groupings, religions and a loosening of lifestyle options. The anti-gay laws in Nigeria, Uganda, Burundi and many other countries are one reaction against this cosmopolitan trend. The second is a clash over human development. Over the past decade, secondary school enrollment in Africa has increased by 50 percent. This contributes to an increasing value on intellectual openness, as people seek liberty to furnish their own minds. The Boko Haram terrorists are massacring and kidnapping people - mostly girls - at schools to try to force people to submit to a fantasy version of the past. The third is the clash over governance. Roughly 80 percent of Africa's workers labor in the informal sector. That's because the formal governmental and regulatory structures are biased toward the connected and the rich, not based on impersonal rule of law. Many Africans are trying to replace old practices with competent governance. They are creating new ways to navigate between the formal and informal sectors. Too many of our images of Africa are derived from nature documentaries, fundraising appeals and mission trips. In reality, Africa faces in acute forms the same problems that afflict pretty much every region these days. Most important: Individual and social creativity is zooming ahead. Governing institutions are failing to perform the basic, elementary tasks.



## Supposedly, Where The Girls Are



GAIL COLLINS  
© 2014 New York Times

This election season is going to be all about women. OK, not entirely. Men will be involved on many significant levels, like running the network of oligarchs who take advantage of our weakened campaign finance laws to manipulate the American democratic process in pursuit of their own selfish ends. That's definitely a guy thing. All right, I'll settle down. Men occupy most of the seats in Congress, and that's not going to change in November. However, women are starring in a lot of exciting election stories this year. Consider the U.S. Senate. The Republicans need to win six seats to take control. There are about a dozen races that seem to be up in the air, and most of them feature female candidates from one party or the other. "Sometimes I feel like the weight of the Senate is resting on my shoulders," said Stephanie Schriock, the president of Emily's List, which raises money for pro-choice Democratic women. Emily's List candidates like the hard-pressed Sen. Kay Hagan of North Carolina, are doing very well in fundraising this year. Although the oligarchs can come thumping down at any moment. The political world this week was watching North Carolina, where Republicans were duking it out to see who would get to run

against Hagan. Excitement was so high that nearly 16 percent of eligible voters came to the polls. Thom Tillis, the speaker of the state House, won. Tillis is coming off an extremely productive legislative season, which included major abortion restrictions passed as an amendment to a bill on motorcycle safety. Also, in a canny show of foresight, he championed a new law that will make it more difficult for young and poor people to vote. The fights aren't all going to be liberal woman versus conservative man. In Michigan, the Republican candidate, Terri Lynn Land, has an ad in which she tells the viewers that Democrats like her opponent, Rep. Gary Peters, "want you to believe I'm waging war on women. Really. Think about that for a moment." And then she just sits there drinking coffee. It's pretty effective, except for the part where Peters did not actually accuse her of waging a war on women. "As a woman, I might know a little bit more about women than Gary Peters," Land says at the end. She opposes Obamacare, backed the government shutdown in 2013 and opposes abortion rights. She also opposes the current congressional bill to raise the minimum wage, which disproportionately affects women. She came out against the equal pay bill that would have made it easier for women to figure out whether they were getting the same wages as their male peers. It is certainly possible for a woman in Congress to have one of these positions and still support her gender. But keep piling this stuff up and you eventually have to ask: What's the point? The Republican establishment would love to have more female candidates - particularly the kind like Land who campaign well and do not have plans to rock the boat on any subject whatsoever. But they've failed to deliver. Only four of the 20 women in the Senate are Republicans, and only 19 of the 79 women in

the House. "The Republican women can't make it through their primaries," said Debbie Walsh, director of the Center for American Women and Politics. "I think one reason is that they tend to be more moderate than men or at least may be perceived to be more moderate." "It's infinitely harder for women to fight the primary process in the Republican Party," agreed Olympia Snowe, the former Republican senator from Maine. "There's such a low turnout in primaries, and generally the ones who vote are the ones further to the right." Snowe is keen on Monica Wehby, who's running in the Republican Senate primary in Oregon. Wehby has a heart-rending ad about her work as a pediatric neurosurgeon that's drawn national attention and more than 100,000 YouTube views. That's a huge number for a political video in which nobody yells. However, Wehby is swimming through controversies about her practice, her campaign and - yes! - sex. Also, the right-to-life movement is upset that the doctor believes abortion is a matter between a woman and her doctor. Like Hispanics, female voters are a huge target audience for both parties this year. Like Hispanics, women have gotten virtually no advantage out of this intense interest, unless you count piles of dead legislation in Congress as an achievement. "At least that's better than being ignored," said Walsh, philosophically. At the minimum, we'll have an opportunity to spend the next few months enjoying a bounty of pander. Minority Leader Mitch McConnell's campaign has been boasting about his support for the Violence Against Women Act, which was indeed the case about 20 years ago. Mitch McConnell was for the Violence Against Women Act when the original version of "Dallas" was still on the air. Since then, he has voted against it three times. But nobody's perfect.



# NBA Playoffs: Final Seconds Feel Like an Eternity

**RICHARD SANDOMIR**  
© 2014 New York Times

The seventh game of the Brooklyn Nets-Toronto Raptors playoff series last Sunday was about 2 1/2 hours old and seemingly just about finished.

But then the game's final minute kicked in, and play inched ahead slowly, as if mired in a congressional filibuster. When the game would end, no one could tell. The final minutes of any game governed by a clock can turn into tense torture, especially tight ones like last Sunday's, in which the Nets' double-digit lead shrunk to 1 point with 8.8 seconds left. In the NBA, strategic fouls, tactical adjustments and commercials - not to mention the myth of the so-called 20-second timeout - can transform the final moments of a matchup into a subject worthy of a reinvestigation into time by Stephen Hawking.

In fact, the choreography of the closing seconds is so ingrained in the NBA mindset that when teams deviate from it, they can make poor decisions.

The New York Knicks lost a game in December when Mike Woodson, then the team's coach, confused his players by not calling a timeout in the final minute. Nets coach Jason Kidd was fined \$50,000 in November when - out of timeouts - he contrived to spill a cup of soda on the court to create the delay he needed to call a play.

Last Sunday's finish in the Nets-Raptors game was more routine in some respects, but in the end the teams took nearly 18 minutes to make it through the final 60 ticks of the clock.

One of the NBA's problems in the playoffs is present in most sports' postseasons: Games last longer on national networks, which, to cover ever-growing rights fees, must sell more advertising time, expanding each commercial break. During this past regular season, NBA games averaged 2 hours 17 minutes. But those broadcast on national television averaged 2:29, and so far this playoff season, when all the games are nationally televised, the number has risen to 2:38, up two minutes from last year.

In tight games, with coaches burning through the timeouts they have hoarded, the gap between clock time and real-world time can swell to an

uncomfortable degree.

"The last two minutes at times drags on and drains the suspense out of the game," said Jeff Van Gundy, an ESPN and ABC analyst and a former Knicks coach.

Rod Thorn, the NBA's president for basketball operations, acknowledged that some games lasted too long but insisted that the long final minute of the Nets-Raptors game was "an aberration."

"More games were happening at the end of that game than you'll see in almost any

handy tools for coaches to strategize, exhort, backslap, point and stall. If a coach is still armed with two full timeouts with two minutes left in the game, one of them becomes a 20-second timeout. With the Nets leading by 81-73 after three quarters, the coaches, Kidd and Toronto's Dwane Casey, each had four timeouts at their disposal. And they held on to them as if they were precious gems.

Casey used his first with 7:26 left. Kidd called one with

basket or a missed free throw." But fewer timeouts in the final two minutes would, under the Van Gundy rule, also mean fewer chances to advance the ball to mid-court. Under the league's rules, teams get the ball at the 28-foot hash mark instead of at their basket after a timeout, saving precious seconds. With time short, that can be a critical strategic advantage: A well-run inbound play in the front-court can produce an immediate shot, and a length-

The six timeouts requested in the game's final 22.5 seconds illustrated how the clock bent to the vagaries of coaching strategy and television's dominion over big-time sports. The first two were full 100-second timeouts. Yet with replays, commercials, commentary by Mike Tirico and Hubie Brown, and competing shots of each team's bench, the timeouts required 2:45 and 2:35 to complete (as measured from the whistle for the timeout to the inbound pass when the action finally resumed).

The four remaining timeouts were ostensibly for 20 seconds. But even with the concession that players do not race to their benches and back to the court in that time and that coaches will cheat by talking for as long as they can, the notion of breaking for such a short period was immediately subverted when ABC cut three times to a 30-second ad.

It is hard to take seriously 20-second timeouts that lasted, in order, 1:35, 1:21, 1:15 and 2:46. (The last timeout was the only one during which ABC did not leave for a commercial.) If shifting to commercials and NBA promos in the final seconds of a close game could be considered unfriendly to fans, why not stay at the game to let Brown continue to analyze? His exuberant verbosity suggests that even if the game was in a commercial break, he was still talking.

Mark Gross, ESPN's senior vice president for production, said by email: "It's always a balancing act for the production team, particularly in end-of-game situations, to ensure we document the live game while integrating presold commercial inventory. In this case, we followed the story lines, captured all game action and took the appropriate breaks."

Five days later, Game 3 of the Oklahoma City-Los Angeles Clippers series, which the Thunder won by 6 points, demonstrated anew the elasticity of NBA time. The final 1:23 on the clock - packed with four timeouts and five fouls - took 12:43 to complete.

For those bedeviled or fatigued by all the breaks and the elongated final moments of a game, it can be comforting to watch lopsided games accelerate to their conclusions for a change. □



**The strategic fouls, tactical adjustments and commercials at the end of NBA games — not to mention the myth of the so-called 20-second timeout — can transform the final moments of a matchup into a subject worthy of a reinvestigation into time by Stephen Hawking.**

**(Sam Manchester/New York Times)**

game," Thorn said.

Timeouts were the primary culprit for the pace of the final minute of the Nets-Raptors game. The NBA grants each team six full timeouts and one 20-second timeout per half. Four of the six full timeouts are scheduled to last 100 seconds; the fifth and sixth full timeouts are purportedly 60 seconds long. A team cannot carry into the fourth quarter more than three full timeouts and one 20-second timeout,

3:42 to go, leaving each team with three. They stayed in reserve until 22.5 seconds remained, with the Nets leading, 102-99. And that is when time - at least the NBA version - seemed to stop.

"In the last two minutes, I'd like to see each team get one timeout, and that's it," Van Gundy said. "I don't think it would be a problem for players and coaches; they would evolve and adapt and know they play more in a flow after a made

of-the-court pass is easier to defend.

"Part of the drama is advancing that ball," Thorn said. "If you have a couple of seconds left and can't advance, your chances of scoring are nil."

The final minute of Nets-Raptors on ABC was by no means frenetic. Action on the court unfolded in slivers of two-, four-, six- and nine-second bursts, save for one sequence that flowed for all of 33 seconds.